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v. 6: 3



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Winter 1996
Vol. 1, No. 1

MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Spaulding and Austin say farewell, page 2

InsideView

Update on changes at MCC, page 3

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Let's Dance!

Choreography follows showcased, page 8

Cuts Reshape Federal Programs

New fiscal realities in Washington are hitting home at the four providers of federal funds for culture. Each agency has cut staff and reshaped programs to respond to directives from Congress. There's no denying that these cuts will have a distinct impact at the local level, but there is also a sense of opportunity inherent in the rethinking and reinventing of programs to best meet the needs of culture and the public. Although the future of federal cultural funding is unclear (all four organizations come up for reauthorization this year and the budget debate begins again this spring), there are still numerous options for cultural organizations seeking support.

National Endowment for the Arts

The NEA received a 40 percent decrease to \$99.5 million in fiscal year 1996, down from \$162 million. Congress specified that the NEA may not serve individuals except through National Heritage Awards, American Jazz Master Awards and fellowships for creative writers. Congress also directed that

New Chair, Executive Director Named

Gov. Weld recommends \$1 million increase to MCC budget

The Massachusetts Cultural Council made three major announcements in late January: Governor Weld appointed a new chairman, Peter Nessen; the MCC board unanimously selected Mary Kelley as the new executive director; and, in the first step of the state's budget process, Governor Weld recommended a \$1.0 million increase for the MCC in fiscal year 1997.

"This is a great new leadership team for the MCC—and the Governor's recommendation is an extraordinary vote of confidence," said outgoing MCC Chairman Josiah A. Spaulding, Jr.

New Board Chair Peter Nessen has extensive experience in the public and private sectors, as well as hands-on experience with the MCC. A member of the MCC's board since 1994, Nessen is currently chairman and president of NCN Corporate Financial Corporation. During the Weld administration he served as secretary of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, and as assistant secretary for the same office under Governor Dukakis. He has also been on the boards of several other nonprofit cultural organizations.

Spaulding announced in December that he would step down as chairman in order to devote more time to new projects. He is the chief executive officer and president of The Wang Center and has served as MCC chairman since 1991 when he was appointed to the board.

New Executive Director Mary Kelley succeeds Rose Austin, who resigned in August to spend more time with her children, ages one and three. Kelley has more than 20 years of experience in the management, development, and marketing of nonprofit cultural organizations. Among her previous positions, she was executive director of the Music Hall in Portsmouth, N.H., and general manager of both the Big Apple Circus and the Williamstown Theatre Festival.

Pursuing a desire to shape public policy, Kelley earned a law degree one year ago. Prior to accepting the director position, she worked in the state Attorney General's office as a special assistant attorney general.

"I'm overjoyed and honored to have this opportunity," said Kelley. "I look forward to meeting the members of the state's cultural community, and working together to ensure that the arts, sciences, and humanities flourish in every corner of the Commonwealth."

The executive director search process was led by a subcommittee of the MCC's board, with *pro bono* assistance from the search firm of Pendleton James and Associates, Inc. More than 200 people from across the country applied for the position.

The \$1 million budget increase recommended for fiscal year 1997 would raise the agency's state budget to \$15.2 million. If approved by the Massachusetts Legislature, the increase would fund several education-related programs—including a new Education Partnership program, and the

Continued on P.6 *

Continued on P.3 *

MCCLetter

Culture, the acquainting ourselves with the best that has been known and said in the world, and thus with the history of the human spirit.

—Matthew Arnold

Our terms at the Massachusetts Cultural Council have been a wonderful journey, and it is with a great sense of hope that we write our last letter to you. We are delighted to inform you in this newsletter of the new leadership team, Mary Kelley and Peter Nessen. Both are energetic and insightful, and they have wonderful perspectives to offer you and the MCC.

We would like to dedicate this edition of the newsletter to the National Endowment of the Arts and all the creative people who support and benefit from it during these challenging times. We know from experience that while these days may seem dark, there are bright horizons ahead.

We offer our sincere thanks to the artists, students, teachers, local volunteers, businesses, and cultural organizations who make Massachusetts a wonderful place to live and work.



Josiah A. Spaulding, Jr.



Rose Austin

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

MCC Board

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MCCConnections is produced by the Massachusetts Cultural Council three times per year. Letters, ideas, and comments are welcome. Please call or write Lisa Safier at the MCC's Boston office. *MCCConnections* Staff: Editor: Lisa Safier, Communications Officer. Layout: Dawn Heinen, Communications Associate. Contributing Writer: Pat Dixon.

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MCCDeadlines

The following is a listing of remaining FY96 application deadlines and those deadlines known for FY97. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Mar 1, 1996

Professional Development

Rolling deadline

Diversity Initiative

Spring 1996

Science Literacy Initiative

Summer 1996

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling Deadline

Massachusetts Touring Program

Mar 1, 1996; Jun 1, 1996

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Programs

Apr 1, 1996

Education Partnership

May 15, 1996

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY97 Disciplines: Music Composition and Playwriting/New Theater Works
Nov 1996

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY97 Disciplines: Crafts, Photography, and Sculpture
TBA, 1997

Media Fellowships

May 1996

COMMUNITIES

Basic Salary Assistance

Intent to Apply Feb 16, 1996
Final Proposal March 25, 1996



The past year has been one of great change and accomplishment at the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Governor Weld and the Massachusetts Legislature passed a significant increase in the MCC's state appropriation. A comprehensive planning process, launched one year ago, has led to the completion of a new three-year strategic plan. The plan, in turn, provides the foundation for several important new programs and for a reorganization of staff. We are also very pleased to complete a move of our Boston office to a new and improved office space at 120 Boylston Street. And with this issue of *MCCConnections*, we are pleased to reinstitute the agency newsletter.

Three-Year Plan Complete

The three-year plan clearly reaffirms the MCC's commitment to each of its four primary constituencies—organizations, artists, schools, and communities—and to the agency's ultimate constituents, the people of the Commonwealth.

The planning process was led by The Wolf Organization, Inc. working closely with an Advisory Committee comprised of MCC board members and representatives of the state's cultural community. Many thanks are due to all who contributed to the development of the plan through individual interviews, public forums, focus groups, and personal comments and suggestions. The process was intensive; the dialogue was both provocative and productive.

Specific highlights of the plan include: a new, streamlined program for Organizational Support; a strong commitment to the state's 336 local cultural councils; a new Education Partnership Initiative; a continuing commitment to individual artists; and a newly-launched Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project.

For details of how this plan impacts particular constituencies, see "Inside Out" on pages 4-5.

Public forums were held across the state in December to discuss the new long-range plan, as well as recent changes in the federal funding profile, and several other topics. At the Boston session, Scott Sanders, Deputy Chairman for Partnership at the National Endowment for the Arts, gave a briefing about the restructuring taking place at the NEA.

Please call the MCC if you would like to receive a copy of the three-year strategic plan.

Mass. Cultural Facilities Project

The MCC, the Cultural Facilities Fund (CFF) and the New England Foundation for the Arts are pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project is now operational.

The purpose of the Facilities Project—launched with grants of \$1.5 million from the MCC and \$500,000 from CFF—is to promote a comprehensive, strategic approach to the planning and development of nonprofit cultural facilities. Support is provided through technical assistance, grants, and low-interest loans. The first three technical assistance workshops were held this fall in Boston, Cape Cod, and Amherst. Three more are scheduled for this spring. Grant and loan guidelines are now available. For more information, call the Mass. Cultural Facilities Project at 617-951-0010.

Staff Reconfiguration

As part of the implementation of the three-year plan, MCC staff has been reorganized in order to allow us to deal more effectively with all of our programs and constituencies. There are now four program departments (Organizations; Artists; Communities; and Education) each overseen by a program officer and staffed by a combination of program coordinators and program associates. Two senior positions, deputy director and program manager, were also established as part of the restructuring.

FY97 State Budget Process

The MCC's fiscal year 1996 budget increase, from \$12 million to \$14 million, directly benefited all segments of the state's cultural community. Significant increases were allocated in the MCC's FY96 budget to grant programs for organizations, local cultural councils, artists, and schools.

Governor Weld's FY97 state budget proposal recommends \$15 million for the MCC. The House Ways and Means Committee will submit its own budget in two to three months, followed by the Senate Ways and Means Committee. The process ends in June/July.

Leadership Change

Finally, this is obviously a time of major leadership transition at the MCC. On behalf of the staff and board, I want to convey the MCC's heartfelt thanks to Rose Austin and Joe Spaulding, who have provided invaluable vision and leadership over the last four years. We are all looking forward to working with Peter Nessen, the new board chair, and Mary Kelley, the new executive director.

Continued from P. 1 *

New Chair, Director named

YouthReach and Science Literacy initiatives—as well as core grant programs. The Governor has recommended increases for the MCC in each of the last five fiscal years.

"The Governor's support is absolutely appreciated. It is a clear endorsement that the cultural community's work provides a benefit to the citizenry," said Nessen.

In January, Governor Weld also reappointed David Starr as vice chairman of the Council. Publisher of the Springfield Newspapers, Starr's community activities include affiliations with Springfield Central, Springfield Library & Museums Association, and the Springfield Business Friends of the Arts.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Organizations

One of the most significant changes to emerge from the MCC's recent three-year planning process is the creation of a new, streamlined grant program for nonprofit cultural organizations: **Organizational Support**. This will integrate four previous MCC grant programs (Operating Support, General Project Support, Education Project Support, and Collaborative Assistance), resulting in a greatly-simplified application process, and reduced duplication of efforts for grant applicants. It will also incorporate a number of other features that were identified in the planning effort, including a three-year application cycle, and the re-introduction of panel site visits (to promote a more thoughtful and informed panel process).

The Organizational Support application deadline is March 1. Guidelines are now available, and grant counseling sessions are being held statewide through February.

In addition to Organizational Support, the MCC will continue to fund several targeted initiatives. **YouthReach**, launched with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, is a grant program that has reached 15 rural and urban communities over the last two years, providing young men and women with cultural programming as an alternative way to deal with frustration, anger, and isolation. A new round of YouthReach grants will be announced this summer. Other continuing programs for organizations include the **Science Literacy Initiative** (which supports science programming for schoolchildren); the **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Cultural Access Initiative**; and the newly-launched **Mass. Cultural Facilities Project**.

For more information on any of the above programs, please contact the MCC. We look forward to working with you!



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

The MCC's strategic plan reaffirms the agency's continuing commitment to high-quality education programs in the arts, sciences, and humanities. The MCC will remain directly involved in the statewide education reform effort. Working closely with the Mass. Dept. of Education, we will continue to provide support for in-school events and residencies to bring artists into classrooms. We will take a larger role in professional development of educators, and, beginning this year, we will introduce a new funding category—**Education Partnership Initiative**—to support multi-year, in-depth partnerships among schools and cultural resource providers.

The goal of the Education Partnership Initiative is extremely ambitious: to promote systemic, lasting change in the ways that a community's schools educate children in the arts, humanities, and/or sciences. The former Education Project Support program—which will be integrated into the MCC's new Organizational Support program beginning in fiscal year 1997—supported high-quality education programs provided by cultural institutions, but its agenda was not as far-reaching as Education Partnership.

Central to the new initiative is the belief that lasting change in the schools will only come from a coordinated, long-term commitment by a community's leaders, educators, and cultural resource providers, working closely together. Partnerships supported through this initiative must include two or more cultural organizations, a school district or group of

InsideOut

schools, and other community resources (e.g., parents, artists/humanists/scientists, universities, local cultural councils, community organizations, local businesses). Guidelines are now available; please contact the MCC for more information.

The most recent **Event & Residency** grant cycle has been completed, and we will fund nearly 150 in-school programs this spring. In addition, a new funding category was piloted as part of this grant cycle: **Artist-Teacher Partnership**. This category provides schools with the opportunity to apply for funds for an artist to work directly with teachers on how to integrate the arts into non-arts curriculum subjects. The next Event & Residency deadline (for fall semester programs) is April 1.



Robert Ayres
Program Officer

Artists

Many changes are afoot regarding the MCC's programs and services for artists. Two individual artists—Lisa Thorson and Dianne Walker—have been appointed to the agency's board. The department which oversees programs and services for artists is also now staffed by artists—though I am the Program Officer for Artists by day, I am a writer and performing artist with Catbox Cabaret at night. Ricco Siasoco, a trained filmmaker and soon-to-be-published author, is the department's Program Associate.

The new strategic plan makes clear that the MCC will continue to strengthen its programs and services for individuals—a reaffirmation of support at a time when the NEA and other states are being forced to curtail



Lisa Hergenrother
Program Officer

Communities

their direct grants to artists. The **Artist Grants** program received major increases in each of the last two years, and we have begun a vigorous new effort to present the work of Artist Grants recipients to the general public. Through the New England Foundation for the Arts, we are continuing to provide support for **Visual Arts Fellowships** and the **Mass. Touring Program**. Grants are also available to artists through the Boston Film/Video Foundation's **Media Fellowships**, **local cultural councils** and the MCC's **Event & Residency Program** for schools.

The **public presentations** of work by Artist Grants recipients have so far been well attended and critically acclaimed. (See page 8 for more information on the program of choreography presentations, "Let's Dance!".) Next fall we will present the 1995 Artist Grants recipients in music composition and playwrighting/new theater works.

The strategic plan places a great deal of emphasis on the need for the MCC to develop services which will complement its grant programs. As one avenue to accomplish this, the plan calls for continued support for the development of the **New England Artists Trust**. The Trust is an artist-run organization that provides resources and information for artists (617-951-0010).

In the coming years, we hope to work with you to develop a range of powerful services for artists—promoting professional development; fostering new work opportunities; finding ways to bridge the isolation too many of us experience; and doing a better job of using and sharing the resources we already have. I welcome any and all ideas; please call me at 617-727-3668, ext. 354.

Hello, local cultural councils. There's a lot to share with you.

Several strategies were mapped out in the MCC's three-year plan to help develop the financial and administrative capabilities of your councils.

First, the MCC will continue to support **annual allocations** to the state's 336 local cultural councils (LCCs) for regranteeing in your communities. The yearly allocations will still be determined by a Local Aid formula (an equation that takes into account population and equalized property values).

In addition, a menu of new competitive funding programs is now being created for LCCs. The **Basic Salary Assistance Program** is being offered for the second time. This program, which provides grants to help LCCs hire executive directors, has helped several LCCs grow substantially beyond the basic regranteeing function. Also, this spring a new matching **LCC Incentive Program** will be launched. Additional MCC dollars will be made available to those communities that can raise matching funds from municipalities. Finally, eligible LCCs may apply and compete for funds through the MCC's **Organizational Support** category.

Technical assistance for the 2,700 volunteers who locally administer the LCC Program was identified in the strategic plan as a high priority. This past fall we launched, in partnership with Arts Extension Service, the **Connecting Through Culture Initiative**—a program of training and services for LCCs. Part of this Initiative includes a newsletter, **Local Roots**, and a series of regional gatherings that will offer networking and training for LCCs. As these services develop, it will be extremely important for folks to let us know about particular needs and interests.

We have found many ways to streamline the LCC review system over the past two years, but the current timetable remains problematic for the PASS program (a school field trip program administered by LCCs). This will be a priority in the upcoming fiscal year.



Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer

Systems

Over the past year the MCC has undertaken a major effort to improve its infrastructure. We hope these changes are paying off in better service to you.

The Boston office relocated last May. We're very proud of our new space, which allows for a more efficient organization of departments, larger meeting areas, and space to feature work by MCC grant recipients.

Many of you are still sending mail to our old address. Please update your various mailing lists with the new address: **120 Boylston Street, 2nd Floor, Boston MA 02116-4600**.

Our Springfield branch also expanded their office space. The Springfield office now has its own toll free number: **800-282-0870**.

We are delighted to join the rest of the world with a voicemail phone system and an upgraded office computer network. The hardware upgrades have allowed us to take advantage of a number of office software applications that were not previously available to us, greatly enhancing our efficiency and internal communications.

The next phase of improvements will focus more on the agency's external computer capabilities: hooking up to the state's Wide Area Network, connecting to the Internet, and creating a Web site. We know many of you want to contact us via E-Mail or to be able to download guidelines and applications. We hope to report progress in each of these areas over the coming year.

Federal Cuts Reshape Grant Programs

grants to nonprofit organizations be made for specific projects, rather than for general operating support.

In a bold restructuring, the NEA is no longer organized around disciplines. Instead, four theme-based categories are open to organizations of all disciplines and fields: Heritage & Preservation, Creation & Presentation, Education & Access, and Planning & Stabilization.

Organizations will be limited to one application per year, and the NEA will also sponsor Leadership Initiatives for projects of national impact or significance. Following a federal trend to shift funding for domestic programs to the states, the NEA will allocate a slightly higher *percentage* of its overall budget to each state arts agency.

New guidelines will be sent to organizations that have received NEA grants within the last four years.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The NEH's fiscal year 1996 budget of \$110 million represents a 37 percent reduction from \$172 million in fiscal year 1995.

Like the NEA, the NEH has restructured operations and program divisions. The agency will offer a total of seven programs to provide project support for nonprofit organizations and fellowships to scholars in three categories: Preservation and Access, Public Programs and Enterprise, and Research and Education.

Unlike the NEA, the NEH has not placed a limit on the number of applications an organization may submit per year. While all programs will be more competitive, the NEH has reduced its internal allocation to research, education and public programs by 53 percent, but has reduced preservation programs by only 23 percent. NEH Challenge Grants will continue, but with 27 percent less devoted to this area. State humanities council budgets will decrease by 5 percent. A new edition of *NEH Overview of Endowment Programs* is now available.

Institute of Museum Services

With a fiscal year 1996 budget cut of 27 percent—from \$28.7 million to \$21 million—the IMS plans to maintain its priority of providing general operating support. However, beginning with fiscal year 1996, museums that receive two consecutive two-year grants will have to “sit out” the next competition.

IMS has also taken steps to reduce the volume of applications and to better serve small-budget museums. Conservation Project Support will now have one annual deadline.



Scott Sanders, NEA Deputy Chairman for Partnership, spoke at the MCC's Boston public forum to explain changes at the NEA.

Funds previously designated for direct Technical Assistance grants to museums will be redirected to the Professional Services Program, which helps museum service organizations provide programming for their members.

The IMS remains committed to the Museum Leadership Initiative, which focuses on specific needs, such as museum-school partnerships. The agency will continue to support subcontractors, to provide Museum Assessments (contact American Association of Museums at 202-289-9125), and Conservation Assessments (contact National Institute for Conservation at 202-625-1495).

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

Unlike the NEA, NEH and IMS, CPB is a private, nonprofit corporation with its appropriation voted two years in advance. Thus, appropriations for fiscal year 1996 (\$275 million) and 1997 (\$260 million) have been established—both down from 1995's \$285 million. In practical terms, this means a reduction of 4 percent in community service grants to public radio and television stations and varying cuts in the competitive grant programs. To address decreasing funding, CPB is encouraging stations to collaborate and to undertake entrepreneurial projects that capitalize on new technologies.

Local Response

While Congress has reduced cultural funding on the national level, the Massachusetts Legislature has shown strong support for the state's cultural community. The MCC's FY96 budget saw an increase to \$14 million. While this increase cannot fully compensate for the decreases in federal funding, the MCC is well-positioned to cushion the blow. The MCC has streamlined its application process to provide better access and is dedicating a larger portion of its budget to operating funds—the highest priority for cultural organizations (see page 4).

Although locally no private funders have so far strengthened their arts focus, a consortium of artists, arts administrators and funding agencies has started collaborating on ways to encourage greater support for artists and arts organizations.

For more information:

National Endowment for the Arts
The Nancy Hanks Center
1100 Pennsylvania NW, Washington, DC 20506
202-682-5400

National Endowment for the Humanities
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 402
Washington, DC 20506
202-606-8400

Institute of Museum Sciences
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506
202-606-8539



Culturalinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited, or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

Native American Art and Culture: Beauty and Meaning is a one-day workshop for elementary and middle school teachers at the Children's Museum. February 29. Contact: 800-370-5487.

The Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism is hosting a series of one-day seminars. Customer service/tourism awareness training, February 27, J.F.K. Library, Boston, MA. \$35. Creative partnerships for nonprofits, May 1, Barnstable County Courthouse, Barnstable, MA. Each has a \$10 registration fee. Contact: Mary Hayes 617-727-3201 x245.

School Enrichment Showcase X showcases 28 storytellers, musicians, dancers, and theater groups interested in working in schools. March 16, 9-3:30 at Higgins University Center, Clark University, Worcester. Contact: Citizen's Educational Resource Center 508-757-6776.

9th Annual Mass Gov. Conference on Travel and Tourism at Tara's Ferncroft Conference Center. April 2-3. For more information, call Mary Hayes at MOTT 617-727-3201 x245.

Artists Congress presented by the New England Artists Trust in Portland, ME. The congress will include an unjuried performing arts showcase, panel sessions, workshops and exhibits. June 20-23. Pre-conference residencies in Maine are available. Contact: New England Foundation for the Arts 617-951-0010.

Call for Artists

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park seeks VHS copies of video art, and documentation of performance, installation art, and new genres from New England Artists for inclusion in a new media arts archive. Contact: Videospace at DeCordova 617-259-8355.

Mobius Call for Proposals for Works-in-Progress #39, an opportunity to show work in the developmental stage to an informed audience. March 8 deadline. Contact: 617-542-7416.

The Middle East Performing Arts Series by Ruby Slipper Productions presents a monthly showcase of mixed-media performance as part of this continuing Monday night series. Contact: Stefanie Cohen 617-625-3551.

Latino Collaborative Bi-Monthly Screening Series seeks work by Latino film/videomakers. Honoraria paid. Contact: Euridice Arrati or Karim Ainouz 212-732-1121.

The CCI Gallery of the Chinese Culture Institute, located at 276 Tremont Street, next to The Wang Center, seeks artists to utilize its 3,500 sq. ft. of exhibition space, and new grand piano in main gallery. Artists of all backgrounds welcome. Contact: 617-542-4599.

Fellowships

Walt Disney Studios Fellowship Program seeks to employ culturally and ethnically diverse new writers. 10-15 writers will work full-time in the feature film and television division to develop their craft at Disney. April 26 deadline. Contact: 818-560-6894.

Barbara Deming Memorial Fund offers up to \$1,000 per grant to women whose projects speak for peace and social justice. No deadline. Send SASE to Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, PO Box 40-1043, Brooklyn, NY 11240-1043.

Short Story Award for New Writers available from Glimmer Train Press. \$1200 and publication to winner. Open to writers not previously published in nationally-distributed publication with circulation over 5000. March 31 postmark deadline. Contact: 503-221-0836.

Residencies

Wurlitzer Foundation offers 3-6 month residencies in Taos, NM to writers, painters, sculptors, composers, and choreographers. No deadline. Contact: Helen Wurlitzer Foundation, PO Box 545, Taos, NM 87571; 505-758-2413.

The Wright Center for Science Education invites secondary teachers of science to apply for a year-long fellowship residency. Begins Sept 1996. Week-long fellowships are also available. Contact: Ronnee Yashion 617-628-5000 x5394.

Resources

The Support Center of Massachusetts offers assistance to nonprofit organizations through consultation, training, professional volunteers, research, publications and information services. Contact: 617-338-1331.

What's in a Copyright? is a monthly 2-hour workshop by Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA) on copyright basics designed to teach artists in all creative fields about copyright law and how to protect their creative rights. Contact: VLA's Art Law Line 212-319-2910.

The American Guild of Musical Artists information hotline for information on grants, auditions, competitions, seminars, health, taxes, etc. Contact: 212-247-0247.

Northampton Emergency Relief Fund provides emergency loans to professional craftspeople who have suffered a disaster that significantly affects their livelihood. Contact: Craft Emergency Relief Fund, 245 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060; 413-586-5898.

Visual Artists Hotline, provided by the American Council for the Arts, offers toll free information for visual artists. Open Mon.-Fri. 2-5 pm Eastern time. Messages can be left 24-hours. Contact: 1-800-232-2789.

Access Expressed is a cultural resource directory from Very Special Arts Massachusetts, listing access information for a variety of cultural facilities and presenting organizations across the state. Contact: 617-350-7713.

A National Database of Arts Organizations of Color is available from the National Assembly of Arts Agencies (NASAA) \$75 for nonprofits, \$125 for-profits. Contact: 202-347-6352.

Choreography Fellows Present Work in Boston and Williamstown

The Massachusetts Cultural Council presented "Let's Dance!" on February 10 and 11 at Williams College in Williamstown, featuring works by the six choreographers receiving MCC 1994 Artist Grants. Co-sponsored with the Williams College Dance Program, the presentation showcased work by Diane Arvanites-Noya, Adrienne T. Hawkins, Arawana Hayashi, Paula Josa-Jones, Dianne Walker, and Wendy Woodson.

Rave Reviews

"'Let's Dance' was a wonderfully varied and accomplished program to kick off the new dance season," said *Boston Herald's* Karen Campbell about the September showcase at Boston's Emerson Majestic Theatre. "When the [MCC] awarded grants to six of the area's most promising choreographers, it went one better than doling out the cash." In the *Boston Globe*, Diane Grant said, "By awarding six grants to Massachusetts choreographers, the [MCC] certainly helped out

those artists. By showcasing the choreographers, the council benefitted many—those who saw and appreciated the works in their very diverse forms."

Complementary Programs

The MCC established the Artist Grants Program in 1994 to complement fellowship programs it supports with the New England Foundation for the Arts (visual arts) and Boston Film/Video Foundation (media arts). Artist Grants are given through the MCC in rotating categories of choreography, fiction, poetry, music composition, and playwrighting/new theater works.

The various fellowship programs provide grants of \$7,500 each to encourage recipients in developing their work. Because providing opportunities for the public to see the art is equally important, the Artist Grants Program includes a presentation component.



Original design for promotional materials
by David Roberts

In addition to the choreography presentations, the MCC sponsored a series of readings around the state last spring by the 1994 Artist Grants recipients in fiction and poetry: Jane Brox, Eileen Pollack, Peggy Rambach, Doug Anderson, Mark Doty, Mariette Lippo, Thomas Lux, David Rivard, Lisa Sewell, Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, and Gene Zeiger.

Preparation is underway for presentations of Artist Grants recipients in playwrighting/new theater works and music composition to take place during the fall of 1996.



Culture Advocates

The Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities (MAASH) is a broad-based grass-roots statewide advocacy organization that serves as a unified voice in support of the state's cultural resources. MAASH members include cultural organizations, local cultural councils, individual artists, and many other Massachusetts residents concerned about cultural issues.

MAASH works closely with the MCC and national arts advocacy organizations to inform members about cultural policy developments and to involve them in organized advocacy efforts. Its legislative network includes contacts in every congressional, state senate and state representative district in the Commonwealth, and members are in touch with elected officials on a regular basis.

The greater the membership, the stronger the advocacy efforts. If you or your organization would like to learn more about MAASH, or would like to join them in encouraging public support for the arts, sciences, and humanities in Massachusetts, call Charlie Washburn, MAASH Chair, c/o Very Special Arts, at 617-350-7713.

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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Director reflects on statewide visits, page 2

InsideView

Fiscal year 1997 budget update, page 3

CulturaLinks

Listing of opportunities, page 7

Commonwealth Awards

Nomination form, insert

Cultural Tourism Holds Promising Future for MA

A growing number of funders and policy-makers are recognizing the strong link between cultural activity and tourism. At both the national and local levels, cultural tourism is being seen as key to economic and audience development.

Cultural tourism started receiving national attention when a 1995 White House Conference on Travel and Tourism acknowledged cultural attractions as tourism "assets" and began a valuable dialogue between the travel and tourism industry and the cultural community. To build on that momentum, for the first time the National Endowment for the Arts is supporting a series of Regional Cultural Tourism Forums.

A New England forum, scheduled for January in Springfield, will gather directors of state arts and tourism agencies and representatives from the tourism industry. According to Kimber Crane of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and one of the forum organizers, the intent of the meeting is to identify shared goals and action plans that will not only influence policy planning at the national level, but also stimulate local activity.

Continued on P. 3 *

Catalysts for Cultural Development

Nessen and Kelley See Challenges, Opportunities Facing MCC

After four months in their respective positions as board chairman and executive director, Peter Nessen and Mary Kelley share their thoughts about their leadership and the role of the MCC as a catalyst for cultural development.

What attracted you to your new positions?

MK: I had just finished law school, passed the bar and was working part-time at the Attorney General's office on elder law issues. But the MCC job description really touched me. After 20 years in the arts industry, I had gone to law school to be more involved with legislative and social policy issues, and the arts connect with that very clearly. I can use both my legal and arts background to advocate on behalf of the constituency that we serve and on behalf of the public.

PN: When I was Secretary for Administration and Finance, the MCC was one of the agencies that reported to my Secretariat. I was always taken by the agency and its efforts—that even with limited resources it was able to fulfill its vision. I've been on the MCC board since 1993 and to be appointed chairman is a dream come true.

With your new leadership, what is the status of the three-year plan?

MK: We're at the mid-point of the plan and have accomplished a lot. We've streamlined the application process and consolidated a number of funding programs into Organizational Support. We've begun to shape methods to help the local cultural councils address the challenges they face as volunteer-run organizations. We've also maintained our commitment to individual artists.

Peter and I are especially excited about the possibility of forming partnerships with other agencies and with other constituencies that have not been connected with the arts. We want to explore collaborations that can benefit the cultural community.

PN: Mary and I have been given an agency that has really found itself. For us, it's an opportunity not to have to build, but to give some new direction.

How is the MCC supporting arts in education?

MK: Arts in education has been a continuing commitment for the agency, and this will only grow stronger now that the arts are included in the core curriculum of the state's Education Reform Act. Following the best thinking about educational impact, we are supporting multi-year partnerships between schools, cultural organizations, and artists, in addition to events and residencies. We are bringing the people together that should be brought together. Our task is to foster these connections into lasting relationships that can effect long-term change.

Continued on P. 6 *

MCCLetter

First, let me say how happy I am to be here at the MCC. As I have travelled around the state to some 35 cultural and science organizations and met representatives from our 336 local cultural councils, I am impressed over and over again by the depth and breadth of activity, as well as the numbers of people served by you and your colleagues.

Driving through the Commonwealth, I have visited many communities—each with its own distinct sense of identity and pride. The work done by artists, cultural organizations, humanists, and professionals in the interpretive sciences forms the fabric of our state and has the power to bring us together in ways that nothing else can. The power of the arts to contribute to the health of our communities is not heralded enough. It is true that in our high tech, compartmentalized society we lack live, direct experience—the kind provided by an evening of riveting live performance or seeing a stunning work of art. Jane Alexander called it “the authentic experience.” This experience is unique; chilling in its reality; inspiring in its ability to transform lives and create new options. We all know what that experience can provide to a person who is young or old, physically challenged, or economically deprived.

We also cannot lose sight of the tremendous economic benefit that cultural organizations and artists provide. Where there is an open theater at night, restaurants can thrive. Our cultural events and sites are destination points for the traveller, as well as for those who live in that community. We need only work together to multiply them or to make them stronger.

Our work at the MCC is clearly cut out. We are here to support all of these endeavors—not only through money, but also through bringing people together, serving as a catalyst to make things happen, and providing help wherever possible. I look forward to working with you.

Mary Kelly
Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced by the Massachusetts Cultural Council three times per year. Letters, ideas, and comments are welcome. Please contact Lisa Safier at the MCC's Boston office.

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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1997 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Mar 3, 1997

Cultural Economic Development

Fall 1996

Science in the Community

Nov 15, 1996

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Aug 1, 1996; Dec 2, 1996 (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Touring Program

Sept 1, 1996; Dec 2, 1996; Mar 3, 1997; June 3, 1997 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

TBA

ADA Mini-Grants

Intent: Jan 24, 1997; Final Proposals: Mar 21, 1997 (617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Professional Development

Last day of each month

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Program

Nov 1, 1996; Apr 1, 1997

Education Partnership

Pre-Proposals: Jan 31, 1997; Final Proposals: Apr 25, 1997

Event and Residency Roster Review

Jan 15, 1997

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY97 Disciplines: Music Composition and Playwrighting/New Theater Works
Jan 24, 1997

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY97 Disciplines: Crafts, Photography, and Sculpture
TBA (617-951-0010)

Media Fellowships

TBA

COMMUNITIES

LCC Grants

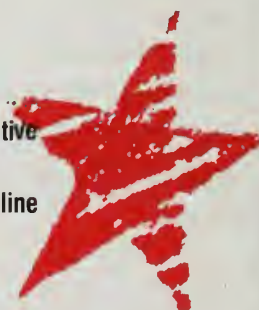
Oct 15, 1996

LCC Matching Incentive

July 15, 1997

LCC Reporting Deadline

Dec 16, 1996



Legislature Recommends Level Funding for MCC in Fiscal 1997

In the next-to-last step of the annual state budget process, a House-Senate Conference Committee has recommended level funding (\$14.1 million) for the MCC in fiscal year 1997. The Conference Committee budget was released on June 19. Governor Weld is expected to sign the budget bill by July 1.

The Governor's signature will bring to a close the budget process which began about six months ago, when the Governor recommended a \$1.0 million increase for the MCC. The House and Senate then released their own budget proposals: the House recommended level funding, while the Senate matched Governor Weld's recommendation for a \$1.0 million increase. The job of the Conference Committee is to negotiate differences between the House and Senate budgets. In the MCC's case, this year, the House recommendation prevailed.

While the Senate and Governor raised hopes for a budget increase, the final recommendation is nonetheless a strong statement of the state's support for the arts, sciences, and humanities. After a series of devastating budget cuts in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the MCC has now received either increases or level state funding for five successive years. This commitment is particularly noteworthy in the context of the battles for survival that are now being fought by the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities.

With the departures of former Senate President William Bulger and former House Speaker Charles Flaherty, this has been a year of major leadership changes in the Legislature. Sen. Thomas Birmingham is the new Senate President, and Sen. Stanley Rosenberg replaced Birmingham as Chair of Senate Ways and Means. On the House side, Rep. Thomas Finneran is the new Speaker; Paul Haley has been named Ways and Means Chair. It is essential that the new leadership and other legislators continue to hear from their constituents who support public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

With the state budget process now all but complete, the MCC is putting the finishing touches on its administrative and program budgets for FY97. Budget materials will be reviewed by the MCC board in July. These will provide the basis for grant recommendations in a number of MCC programs, including Local Cultural Councils, Organizational Support, YouthReach, and the new Education Partnership Initiative—all of which will be voted upon by the board in late August. Award notifications and contracts for each of these programs will be mailed in September.

Mass. Facilities Project Names New Manager, Moves to MCC Office

In April, Ellen Spear, the former Executive Director of the USS Constitution Museum, was appointed to manage the Mass. Cultural Facilities Project (MCFP). The MCFP provides planning grants and technical assistance to help cultural organizations better develop and manage their facilities. Ellen is also the former Coordinator of the New Jersey Council on the Arts' Cultural Centers Program, a \$40 million facilities grant program.

We're pleased to report that, coinciding with Ellen's appointment, the MCFP has now relocated to the MCC Boston office. The Project's address is the same as ours; the phone number is 617-727-8447.

Continued from P. 1 * **Cultural Tourism**

A number of efforts already underway in Massachusetts demonstrate the success of partnerships between the cultural community, local government, and business. For example, Heritage Cape Cod was founded four years ago to promote the culture, history, and environment of the Cape. According to Deborah Flodberg, president of the volunteer organization, more than 100 nonprofit organizations are involved, and representatives from local businesses serve on the board. The group publishes a nine-month calendar of events and coordinates "Heritage Week," a special promotion with more than 150 activities. Support is provided by the Cape Cod Commission, a Cape-wide planning agency, and area businesses.

"The local business community appreciates our efforts to promote understanding of all the unique resources on the Cape," Flodberg said.

In the Berkshires, cultural organizations have banded together to publish a tourism brochure that is translated into French, German and Japanese. They also purchase cooperative advertising, which is coordinated through the Berkshires Visitors Bureau.

"We all chip in. This combined effort really makes a statement about the wealth of cultural organizations and natural resources along the whole stretch of the Berkshires," said Bea Snyder, Manager of Public Affairs and Membership for the Norman Rockwell Museum.

The MCC hopes to encourage such local efforts through the new Cultural Economic Development Program.

"We plan to provide \$500,000 in seed money for projects that will yield a significant economic return to a neighborhood," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

Guidelines will be available this summer, with applications due in the late fall. Projects are not limited to tourism-related collaborations.

"We are looking forward to seeing new and creative ideas emerge from communities," said Kelley. ■



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Organizations

The first cycle of the new **Organizational Support Program** is well under way. Over 500 organizations applied. With 16 peer review panels in all disciplines taking place between the end of April and early July, this is without doubt the Organizations Department's busiest time of year. Adding to the excitement is the re-incorporation of site visits after many years. About 150 organizations will receive site visits by designated panelists prior to the panel meetings as a first step towards visiting all cultural institutions within the next three years.

The **YouthReach Initiative** completed its second granting cycle in May, and at least nine new partnerships have been recommended for funding. This Initiative, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, fosters meaningful and lasting collaborations between arts organizations and other community groups that nurture the creative spirit in at-risk youth.

The **Professional Development Program** is up and running. With a rolling deadline at the end of every month, Massachusetts residents who are formally affiliated with a Massachusetts nonprofit cultural organization and individual artists may apply for funding to help cover costs associated with attending professional conferences, workshops, seminars, or master classes.

Guidelines for the new **Science in the Community Program** will be completed by the end of the summer. Part of the MCC's commitment to science literacy, this program will provide multi-year grants for the development and delivery of out-of-school programs that offer meaningful science experiences for youth in grades pre-K through 12. Like YouthReach, this program is meant to encourage collaboration among a

range of community-based organizations, scientific institutions, and organizations with significant public programs in the sciences.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

In December, the Massachusetts Board of Education formally accepted **curriculum frameworks** for Arts, Comprehensive Health, Mathematics, Science and Technology, and World Languages. Frameworks for English Language Arts and Social Studies should be finalized this summer.

Teams of educators, administrators, and others are working to translate the frameworks into measures or tests that will assess students' knowledge and skills in each subject. Arts and Comprehensive Health are currently not designated for individual student assessments but instead for "local assessments." This means that school districts will administer and score the state-wide tests and send the aggregate results to the Mass. Department of Education (DOE). For the other core subjects, the tests will be forwarded to the DOE and scored by an outside testing organization.

The MCC, DOE, and the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education were recently awarded a **Goals 2000 Arts Education Leadership Award** from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, and the Emily Hall Tremain Foundation. This project has created a network of educator teams that are developing pilot arts assessments for use in the classroom. Following a Request for Proposals, four school districts were selected to partici-

InsideOut

pate: **Pittsfield, Somerville, Weymouth, and Worcester.**

There has been tremendous interest in our new **Education Partnership Initiative**, designed to promote long-term, collaborative education programs among cultural organizations, schools, artists, and other community resources. In May, eight proposals were received for three-year Implementation Grants and 25 proposals were received for one-year Planning Grants.

Twenty-three artists/organizations were added to the Event & Residency Program roster in the categories of puppetry, theater, and visual arts. Contact information and program descriptions for these artists will be available in September in the MCC's **Cultural Resources Directory Supplement.**



Robert Ayres
Program Officer

Artists

The MCC is proud to announce the 1996 Artist Grants recipients and finalists:

Choreography (73 applicants)

Award Recipients: Jose E. Mateo *Cambridge*, Laurie W. McLeod *Stockbridge*, Tommy Neblett *Somerville*, Clara Ramona *Dorchester*, and Amy Spencer & Richard Colton *Concord*.

Finalists: Yandje Dibinga *Jamaica Plain*, James T. Godbolt *Hanson*, D.J. McDonald *Williamstown*, Ken Pierce *Cambridge*, Pamela Raff *Brookline*, Marcus Schulkind *Boston*, and Darla J. Villani *Cambridge*.

Fiction (253 applicants)

Award Recipients: Dean Albarelli *Provincetown*, Suzanne Berne *Watertown*, E.J. Graff *Watertown*, Richard Hoffman *Cambridge*, Barbara Lewis *Somerville*, William J. Mann *Provincetown*, Milva McDonald *Medford*, Askold Melnyczuk *Medford*, Jessica Treadway *Arlington*, and Brian Walker *Brighton*.

THE COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND INTERPRETIVE SCIENCES



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SEPTEMBER 9, 1996 DEADLINE

SPONSORED BY THE

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

AND THE

MASSACHUSETTS ADVOCATES FOR THE ARTS,

SCIENCES, AND HUMANITIES



1993

COMMONWEALTH

AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Artist

Allan Rohan Crite

Humanist

Henry Hampton

Interpretive Scientist

Dr. Stephen Jay Gould

Barbara Waters

Organizational

Leadership

DeWitt Henry

Ploughshares, Inc.

Zeren Earls

First Night, Inc.

Education

Arts In Progress

Community

Somerville Arts Council

Patron

Jane P. Fitzpatrick

Volunteer

John C. Sevey

AN

UNCOMMON WEALTH OF

CREATIVITY

COMMITMENT

COMMUNITY

PURPOSE

The Commonwealth Awards in the Arts, Humanities, and Interpretive Sciences provide a biennial opportunity to celebrate those individuals and organizations whose extraordinary contributions benefit the citizens of Massachusetts and enhance the state's rich cultural life.

CATEGORIES

One award will be given in each of the following nomination categories:

ARTIST

HUMANIST

INTERPRETIVE SCIENTIST

CULTURAL ORGANIZATION - For overall artistic/humanistic/scientific excellence and impact on public life.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP - For an individual who has made an outstanding contribution as a leader of a cultural organization.

EDUCATION - A cultural educator, organization, or school.

COMMUNITY - A local cultural council or town/city government.

PATRON - An individual, business or foundation that has made an outstanding contribution (not limited to financial contributions).

CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Outstanding contribution in the advancement of excellence, access, education, or diversity in the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences in Massachusetts.

Nominees must currently reside in Massachusetts. Previous Commonwealth Awards recipients are ineligible.





1995

COMMONWEALTH

AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Artist

Louis Krasner

Humanist

Julian Crandall Hollick

Interpretive Scientist

Bernard Zubrowski

Cultural Organization

Art of Black Dance and Music

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival

Organizational

Leadership

Henry P. Becton, Jr.
WGBH

Education

Rosebud C. Holland
Elma Lewis

Community

Northampton Arts Council

Patron

Aerosmith

DEFINITIONS

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Anyone may submit one or more nominations. You may not nominate yourself or your own organization.

To make a nomination, please complete and return the form on the reverse side. You may photocopy the form to make additional nominations.

Please print clearly or type in a font no smaller than 10 point (this is 10 point).

Nominations must be postmarked or hand-delivered by 5:00 pm on Monday, September 9, 1996. Nominations received after that date will not be considered.

Send nominations to:

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

ATTN: COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

TEL

617-727-3668

120 BOYLSTON STREET, 2ND FLOOR

TOLL FREE

800-232-0960

BOSTON, MA 02116-4600

TTY

617-338-9153

The Massachusetts Cultural Council will contact all nominees to request additional descriptive materials to support their nomination (resume, audio/visual materials, etc.). Nominees will have until Friday, October 18, 1996 to supply this information.

Award recipients are chosen by a Selection Committee that includes a representative from each category.

Commonwealth Awards recipients will be recognized at a public ceremony on March 4, 1997 at the State House in Boston. The award objects will be created by a Massachusetts recipient of a Visual Arts Fellowship funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, New England Foundation for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Arts

The arts involve the creation, presentation, and preservation of works in the following disciplines: crafts, design arts, folk arts, interdisciplinary arts, literary arts, media arts, performing arts, and visual arts.

Humanities

The humanities are branches of learning that deal with self-awareness, language, reason, creativity, human values and aspirations, and the products of all of these. Examples of humanities disciplines include, but are not limited to: criticism, history, literature, philosophy, and social studies.

Interpretive Sciences

The interpretive sciences are those activities that engage people of all ages in learning about nature, science, and technology in ways that connect directly to their lives.



SEPTEMBER 9, 1996 DEADLINE!

NOMINATION FORM

THE COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY - ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED.

PLEASE PHOTOCOPY FORM TO MAKE ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS.

CATEGORY (check one):

☐ Artist

☐ Cultural Organization

☐ Community

☐ Humanist

☐ Organizational Leadership

☐ Patron

☐ Interpretive Scientist

☐ Education

I NOMINATE:

Name (If an individual Mr/s, Last, First)

Name of Organization (If applicable)

Name of Organization's Director (If different from above)

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Work Number

Home Number

MY NAME IS:

Name (Mr/s, Last, First)

Title (If applicable)

Name of Organization (If applicable)

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Work Number

Home Number

DESCRIBE IN THE SPACE BELOW WHY THE NOMINEE MEETS THE CRITERIA OF THIS AWARD.

Continued from P. 4 *

Finalists: Melanie Braverman *Provincetown*, Peter H. Davies *Provincetown*, Lissa Franz *Brookline*, Daniel Mueller *Provincetown*, Tara Lynn Masih Padykula *Andover*, George Rosen *Gloucester*, Candice Rowe *Roslindale*, and Ellen Wittlinger *Swampscott*.

Poetry (310 applicants)

Award Recipients: Melanie Braverman *Provincetown*, Lucie Brock-Broido *Cambridge*, Charles Coe *Cambridge*, Martin Espada *Amherst*, Caroline Knox *Westport*, and Mary Koncel *Worthington*.

Finalists: Daniel Hall *Amherst*, Jane Reavill Ransom *Boston*, Jennifer Rose *Waltham*, Patrick Sylvain *Somerville*, Liz Waldner *Medford*, and Franz Wright *Everett*.

Works-on-Paper (204 applicants)

Award Recipients: Aparna Agrawal *Cambridge*, Nancy Berlin *Truro*, Lorey Bonante *Arlington*, Robert Goss *Somerville*, Nicholas Lawrence *Provincetown*, Dean Nimmer *Hyde Park*, Elizabeth Solomon *Northampton*, Bill Thompson *Boston*, Laura Chasman *Roslindale*, Michael V. David *Boston*, Andrea Hoelscher *Boston*, Mark Richard Hohlstein *South Boston*, and Thaddeus Beal *Essex*.

Finalists: Jay Critchley *Provincetown*, Susan Schmidt *Somerville*, and Jane Kamine *Cambridge*.

Painting (280 applicants)

Award Recipients: Miroslav Antic *Cambridge*, Harry Bartnick *Beverly*, Robert Bauer *Arlington*, Gail Boyajian *Somerville*, Polly Burnell *Provincetown*, Jennifer Gordon *Hyde Park*, Barbara Grad *Wayland*, Katherine Schneider *Northampton*, James Stroud *Boston*, Tomas VuDaniel *Boston*, Mark Warren *South Boston*, Anthony Apesos *Jamaica Plain*, Robert Ferrandini *Winthrop*, and Christopher J. Lee *Amherst*.

Finalists: Phyllis Berman *Newton*, Jack Clift *Chelsea*, Santiago Hernandez *Boston*, Marilene Phipps *Cambridge*, and Paul Rahilly *Lexington*.

Artist Grants are \$7,500, with \$1,000 awards for finalists. We look forward to presenting the work of the Artist Grants recipients to the public in 1997. Thank you to the many artists from around the state who applied to the program. Panelists regularly commented on the extraordinary quality of work being produced in Massachusetts.

It was wonderful seeing so many local cultural council (LCC) representatives at the **Spring Regional Gatherings**. Thirteen meetings were conducted between April and May. Over 200 members representing 85 LCCs attended workshops on fundraising, marketing, grants evaluation, working with schools, and LCC Program basics. We are compiling feedback from folks who attended and will use this information to plan future sessions. Thanks to all who attended.

The MCC is currently evaluating this year's technical assistance and services. We would appreciate hearing from any LCC who has feedback for us in this area. What did you like? What would you like to see improved?

Congratulations to **1794 Meetinghouse, Inc.** in New Salem for securing funds from the MCC's **Basic Salary Assistance Program** for local cultural councils and local arts agencies. Their three-year grant will support the expansion of the executive director's position.

Guidelines for the **LCC Matching Incentive Program** will be distributed this summer. The LCC Matching Incentive Program is a pilot program, providing money to LCCs that succeed in raising funds from their municipality and/or private local funders. All LCCs will have an entire fiscal year to raise additional funds from either their municipality or private sources. This timeline allows equal access for all LCCs to participate, and it creates a timeline that models the municipal budget process for LCCs trying to leverage public dollars from their city or town.

LCC Program Guidelines will be reprinted and issued this summer to all LCC members. A complementary document explaining revisions made to the LCC regulations will also be included in this mailing.



Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer

Systems

Hello everyone. Two words come to mind at this time of the year: **Deadlines** and **Final Reports**. Here's some information about both that I hope you find useful.

When is my Final Report due?

If you received an Operating Support grant—no sooner than July 1, 1996 and no later than July 31, 1996.

All other grants—30 days after completion of the funded project.

What are MCC's matching requirements?

These depend on the type of grant you received. Matching requirements range from a 1:1 match to a 4:1 match. All MCC grants must be matched with your own dollars. A grant with a 4:1 match, for example, would require that you contribute four of your dollars for each MCC dollar. Refer to your program guidelines for appropriate matching requirements.

What are "in-kind goods and services"?

"In-kind" refers to a donation of goods or services. Any good or service that you do not have to pay for can be considered in-kind. Free rehearsal space, donated art supplies, or pro bono consultant work are examples of in-kind goods and services. Please note that your organization's administrative salaries are not considered an in-kind expense.

What portion of the match can be comprised of in-kind goods and services?

Again, this depends on the type of grant. Operating Support grants cannot be matched with in-kind goods and services. Other MCC grants allow for a portion of your match to be comprised of in-kind goods and services. Refer to the guidelines for more information.

If you have any questions regarding these deadlines or your Final Report, please call Renee Lindsay at 617-727-3668 x332, 800-232-0960, or TTY 338-9153.

Nessen and Kelley Talk About Challenges, Opportunities

Partnerships and collaborations seem key to your strategies for cultural development.

MK: Very much so. We want to create partnerships that will bring more people, more money and more opportunities to the table. A good example is the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project, a partnership between the MCC, the New England Foundation for the Arts, and the Cultural Facilities Fund in New York. The Project provides loans, grants, and technical assistance for facilities development.

We're in the process now of exploring other potential linkages. We've been talking with the Secretary of Elder Affairs about ways that we can work together to come up with some more systemic ways to serve the elderly population.

areas: governmental agencies, the business community, and other nonprofit organizations. We are looking to leverage their resources—their expertise and dollars. In some cases, the MCC may be a partner in a collaboration. In other cases, we may just play the role of facilitator—to bring other organizations together. And our most important role may be as a catalyst/advocate where the MCC can speak for the community to the legislature and business community.

How is the MCC responding to the loss of federal funds?

MK: The NEA loss is a sorry state of affairs for this country. The MCC will lose about \$210,000 in our two biggest grants from the NEA. But,

We hope to identify ways that the private sector can help respond to this serious loss. Are there other ways in which the private sector can be involved? What else can they bring in addition to funding?

PN: The most underutilized resource that we can turn to is volunteerism, and we are just starting to think about this opportunity. There is a wealth of talent in our universities, businesses and nonprofit organizations that we need to bring on board in support of culture.

MK: We also want to explore mentoring between larger organizations and smaller organizations. It's happening, but we would like to encourage it on a larger scale.

On a broader level, what can be done to make public funding for culture less vulnerable?

PN: One of the most important things is to be certain that the MCC is not the sole spokesperson. That's one of the reasons collaborations are so interesting to us. We are looking to other not-for-profits and other constituencies to become a voice for the intrinsic value of culture in our lives and communities.

I also think the cultural community has to be able to communicate the impact of the arts, humanities, and sciences on elementary education and the elders. Additionally, there is an important role for local cultural councils in regional development that we want to explore. The rewards from such efforts could be of major consequence to communities and whole regions. They could highlight the integral role of the humanities, arts, and sciences in all aspects of community life.

I don't think the issues that we are wrestling with are focused solely around money. But, unfortunately, much of our success is measured by whether we get an increase in our appropriation. And I think it is the wrong evaluation. It's the subtle actions that we plan to take that are going to make the difference. The questions go beyond money. ■



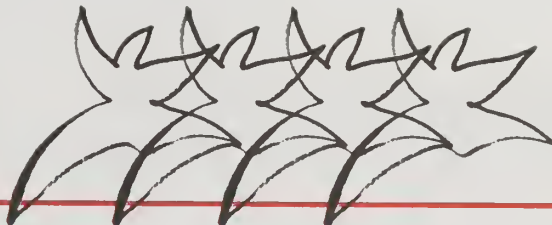
Photo by Tessa Gordon

MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley with Board Chairman Peter Nessen

Intergenerational collaboration is exciting and fruitful. Our Cultural Economic Development initiative will bring community development corporations, business associates and cultural institutions to the table. We have met with the Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism to explore how to spur tourism growth in the state.

PN: I hope my experience in the public and private sectors will benefit the MCC as we develop partnerships. We plan to pursue three

thanks to our wonderful governor and legislature, we are not as devastated by the cuts as other states are. We're particularly worried about the impact on artists and arts organizations. They've received about \$5 million per year in grants directly from the NEA, and they are going to be cut by a third—almost \$2 million will be lost for cultural activities in Massachusetts. There is no way the MCC can replace that money.



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

The 1996 Northeast Performing Arts Conference from Aug 24-27 at the Hyatt Regency on Capital Hill in Washington, DC. Contact: Marjorie Klein 413-545-0190.

Puppetry Symposium will examine the history of puppets and address the challenges in presenting puppetry, particularly to adult audiences, Oct 2 at Dartmouth College's Hopkins Center in Hanover, NH. Contact: New England Foundation for the Arts 617-951-0010.

Call for Entries

The Art Guild, Farmington CT, seeks artists to exhibit work during the 1996-1997 season in 2-D & 3-D work. Send at least 10 slides, SASE, and resume to: The Art Guild Gallery, Church Street, Farmington, CT 06032; 860-677-6205.

Fanlight Productions, a national distributor of film and video programs, seeks new works on healthcare, mental health, disabilities, sexuality, and related issues. Contact: Karen McMillen, Fanlight Productions, 47 Halifax St., Boston, MA 02130; 800-937-4113.

National Youth Theatre Playwrighting Development Workshop is accepting plays for young audiences to be presented in rehearsed readings at their national symposium in April 1997 in Indianapolis. Sept 1 deadline. Contact: Dr. Dorothy Webb 317-274-0555.

Nervous Impulse is a national film and video screening series focusing on science. It is looking for experimental, non-narrative or animated works that address scientific representation, scientific knowledge, or interplay between science and culture. Send VHS and SASE to: Nervous Impulse, PO Box 2578, Times Square Station, NY, NY 10036.

Fellowships

Association of Performing Arts Presenters

Dance Travel Assistance Program offers partial support for nonprofit presenters to travel to performances/residencies by US-based dance companies. Oct 21 deadline. Contact: Jennifer Dlugos 202-833-2787.

The Fund for US Artists at International Festivals and Exhibitions

makes grants to individuals, performing artists, and organizations that have been invited to participate in international festivals around the world. 1996 guidelines available. Sept 2 deadline. Contact: The Fund for US Artists, Arts International, Institute of International Education, 809 United Nations Plaza, NY, NY 10017; 212-984-5370.

Pollack-Krasner Foundation gives financial assistance to artists of merit and need who work in mixed media or installations. Grants from \$1000-\$3000 awarded throughout the year. Contact: Pollack-Krasner Foundation, 725 Park Avenue NY, NY 10021.

Residencies

Artists and Writers Colonies describes nearly 200 residencies, retreats, and fellowships, indexed by state and discipline. \$15.95 plus \$3 s/h. Contact: Blue Heron Publishing, 24450 NW Hansen Rd, Hillsboro, OR 97124; 503-621-3911.

Artist in Residence Programs in the National Parks is a 32-page report of accommodations, selection processes, and guidelines. \$9.95 plus \$2.50 s/h. Contact: Lucky Dog MultiMedia, PO Box 65552, St. Paul, MN 55165.

Banff Centre for the Arts seeks proposals for its 1996-97 residency cycle. Residencies available for artists, writers, critics, curators, producers, directors, technicians, and researchers. Contact: Registrar, Banff Center for the Arts, Box 1020, Station 28-435, Banff Alberta T0L 0C0 Canada; 800-565-9989.

Resources

Fundamentals of Local Arts Management

(\$24.95) and **Arts Management Bibliography & Publishers** (\$6.50) + s/h. Contact: Publications, Arts Extension Service 413-545-2360.

The National Directory of Consulting in the Arts

lists over 1,000 consultants in 38 service categories. Contact: National Assembly of State Arts Agencies 202-347-6352.

The Disability Awareness Training Project

provides state-of-the-art disability awareness training and training materials to nonprofits and funders in and around the Boston area. Contact: Pamela Kramer, Boston Globe Foundation 617-929-7735 or 627-929-2010 TDD.

NEA on the World Wide Web at <http://arts.endow.gov>

The website provides information on the nonprofit arts including funding opportunities, research resources, a monthly online magazine, relevant links, and more.

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts, Inc.

provides free legal services and educational programs to MA artists and cultural organizations. PO Box 8784, Boston, MA 02114; 617-523-1764, 800-864-0476.

Case Studies of Successful Business-Art Alliances

by the Business Committee for the Arts, Inc., focuses on how arts support can address important social issues. \$7. Contact: Publications, B.C.A., 1775 Broadway, Suite 510, NY, NY 10019; 212-664-0600.

AEIOU lists alternative exhibition spaces in the US and beyond, according to region. To list your space or get a copy, contact AEIOU, Film Arts Foundation, 346 9th Street, 2nd floor, San Francisco, CA 94103; 415-552-8760.

Artist Fellowship Inc. offers financial assistance to professional artists in cases of serious illness, distress, or bereavement. Contact: AFL c/o Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY 10003; 212-255-7740.

ADA Mini-Grants Support Programmatic Accessibility

Twenty-three Massachusetts cultural organizations have been selected for grants of more than \$62,000 in the 1996 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Mini-Grants Program. The program is a collaborative effort, funded by the MCC and administered by Very Special Arts Massachusetts (VSAM). VSAM was selected as a partner because of their expertise and knowledge of access issues in the cultural community.

The program is designed to encourage efforts by cultural organizations to make their programs more accessible to people with disabilities. This enables them to go beyond the minimum physical accessibility requirements of the ADA.

"We want to help stretch the way cultural organizations think about accessibility," said Charlie Washburn, Vice President of VSAM. "Physical access is only the first step. In fact, this year, we made clear that only 'barrier-free' organizations would be eligible for grants."

Organizations involved in capital projects to enhance physical accessibility can apply for planning grants through another MCC partnership, the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project (617-727-8447).

"Almost \$400,000 has been invested over a three-year period in programmatic access as a result of ADA Mini-Grants," said Washburn. "But the most significant impact is the resulting group of about 60 organizations who are actively making what they do accessible."

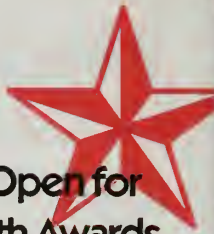
Grants are offered in three project categories: General, Collaborative, and Innovative. The Innovative Project category was recently added in order to help promote programs that integrally involve artists with disabilities, such as Dance Umbrella's International Festival of Wheelchair Dance. The Festival's goal is to explore, encourage and promote the artistry, impact, visibility, and growth of wheelchair dance as a new movement art form.

"By introducing the Innovative Project category, we were able to attract proposals that engage artists with disabilities in the creative element," Washburn said.

As part of the ADA Mini-Grant Program, VSAM provides technical assistance, referrals, and accessibility training to a number of organizations other than those selected for grants. Over 65 organizations submitted "intent-to-apply" forms for the program in fiscal year 1996, and each of these received some form of assistance or consultation from VSAM staff.

The program has attracted national attention. The national chapter of Very Special Arts plans to replicate the program in other areas of the country. In the spring of 1997, teams from six states will come to Massachusetts for training in how to administer the grant process. The program has also been cited as model by the Special Constituencies staff at the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, call Charlie Washburn at VSAM (617-350-7713 or 617-350-6836 TTY).



Nominations Open for Commonwealth Awards

Nominations are being sought for the 1997 Commonwealth Awards in the Arts, Humanities, and Interpretive Sciences. These awards celebrate individuals and organizations whose extraordinary contributions benefit the citizens of Massachusetts and enhance the state's rich cultural life. The awards are sponsored by the MCC and Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities.

Nominations are due Monday, September 9, 1996. A nomination form can be found in the center of this newsletter.

Awards are given in each of the following categories: Artist, Humanist, Interpretive Scientist, Cultural Organization, Organizational Leadership, Education, Community, and Patron. Awards are presented biennially.

Recipients from the past two Commonwealth Awards in 1993 and 1995 include: Henry Hampton, Stephen Jay Gould, Aerosmith, Elma Lewis, Northampton Arts Council, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Henry Becton of WGBH, Zeren Earls (founder of First Night), and Louis Krasner.

The 1997 recipients will be recognized at a public ceremony on March 4, 1997 at the State House in Boston. The award objects will be created by a Massachusetts recipient of a Visual Arts Fellowship funded by the MCC, New England Foundation for the Arts, and National Endowment for the Arts.

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Boston, MA 02116-4600

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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

New fiscal year brings new initiatives, page 2

InsideOut

Program updates, pages 4 and 5

CulturaLinks

Listing of opportunities, page 7

Artist Grants Presentations

Recipients' works to be performed, page 8

MCC Sets 1997 Budget, Announces \$10 Million in Cultural Grants

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) has announced grants of more than \$10 million to nonprofit cultural organizations and communities across the Commonwealth. Grants were made from the MCC's 1997 fiscal year budget.

"This is the time of year when the MCC makes the majority of its funding decisions for the new fiscal year. Almost 70% of our 1997 budget was granted in August," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director.

The budget sets this year's allocations for each of the MCC's major grant and service programs—for nonprofit cultural organizations, communities, artists, and schools. The budget maintains approximately level funding to each of four core programs (Local Cultural Councils, Organizational Support, Artist Grants, and Event & Residency), and also provides increases to several initiatives focusing especially on education and youth (Education Partnership, YouthReach, and Science Literacy).

Continued on P.3 *

New Education Partnerships Launched 17 Community Collaborations Participating in Initiative's First Year

The Education Partnership Initiative—one of the major priorities of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's three-year plan—is now up and running, following the approval of 17 grants by the MCC board in August. For the first year of the program, more than \$377,000 will be invested in communities from Provincetown to Becket, to help schools and cultural organizations form long-term alliances that will promote cultural activities in the schools.

"This is the most ambitious education effort the MCC has ever sponsored," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director. "Schools across the state are grappling with how to integrate the arts, humanities, and sciences into their core curricula. Cultural organizations can play a major role in that effort."

Of the 17 awards made this year, there are 13 one-year planning grants (ranging from \$5,300-\$10,000) and four three-year implementation grants (ranging from \$50,000-\$65,000). The planning grants will help bring together leaders from schools, cultural organizations, and the community-at-large to discuss how they can collaborate in bringing cultural programs into their schools. Implementation grants will support established partnerships to help develop curricular materials, train teachers, and provide cultural activities for kids. A complete list of grantees is on page 6.

The Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 laid the groundwork for the Education Partnership Initiative by mandating that the arts become part of the state's core curriculum. However, the act leaves it up to each community to determine how to achieve this goal within its own schools. As a result, many schools are now looking to cultural groups for guidance and support.

"One of the main goals of the program is to bring cultural resources into the schools in a long-term and cost-effective way," said Esther Kaplan, executive director of Arts in Progress, a Boston organization that will lead one of the implementation grants.

One way to ensure such change is teacher training, helping teachers explore new ways of integrating cultural activities into their classrooms. For example, the Arts in Progress consortium will provide teacher workshops on topics such as storytelling in the classroom, playwriting with students, and teaching history through traditional arts that are relevant to student populations.

Another hallmark of the Initiative is its emphasis on partnership. To be eligible for a grant, a community must assemble a coalition of two or more cultural organizations, a school district or group of schools, and other community organizations.

"By working together on the planning process, we hope groups will develop a common purpose and a joint foundation for future relationships beyond the grant years," said Carol Guidice, MCC Program Officer for Education.

Continued on P.6 *

Greetings. We have just completed the first year of the MCC's three-year strategic plan and can point to several completed steps, including launching the new Organizational Support Program, the Education Partnership Initiative, and a series of workshops for local cultural councils. We continue to make progress in many areas, even as we look ahead to the new challenges facing our many constituents in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

Despite level funding, we are carrying out new programmatic initiatives. We have just released guidelines for Science in the Community, a program designed to encourage young people to participate in the sciences outside the usual classroom model. We are updating our Touring Roster and opening the list up to additional Massachusetts artists. This fall, field representatives will join us in three areas of the state to provide better service to our 336 local cultural councils. With our new program manager, we look forward to starting up the Cultural Economic Development Program.

As the first cycle of the MCC's Organizational Support Program draws to a close, we know that many people will have questions about how the program works. It is always difficult to picture how a new program will impact each organization. Through October, we are holding public forums to give constituents an opportunity to ask questions and give input as we go into the new season.

We are committed to being responsive to all of you during the coming year.

Mary Kelly
Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Jody Dow, *Brookline*
Nancy Bush Ellis, *Boston*
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MCCConnections is produced by the Massachusetts Cultural Council three times per year.

Letters, ideas, and comments are welcome; please contact Lisa Safier. *MCCConnections* Staff: Editor/Writer: Lisa Safier, Communications Officer. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen, Communications Associate. Contributing Writers: Sarah Fishman, Charlie McDermott.

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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1997 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Intents: Jan 15, 1997 Final Proposals: Mar 3, 1997

Cultural Economic Development

Winter 1997

Science in the Community

Nov 15, 1996

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Dec 2, 1996 Feb 3, 1997 Apr 1 1997 (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Touring Program

Dec 2, 1996 Mar 3, 1997 Jun 3, 1997 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

Feb 14, 1997

ADA Mini-Grants

Intents: Jan 24, 1997 Final Proposals: Mar 21, 1997 (617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Professional Development

Last day of each month

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Program

Nov 1, 1996 Apr 1, 1997

Education Partnership

Pre-Proposals: Jan 31, 1997 Final Proposals: Apr 25, 1997

Event & Residency Roster Review

Jan 15, 1997

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY97 Disciplines: Music Composition and Playwriting/New Theater Works
Jan 24, 1997

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY97 Disciplines: Crafts, Photography, and Sculpture
TBA (617-951-0010)

Media Fellowships

May 1, 1997

COMMUNITIES

LCC Grants

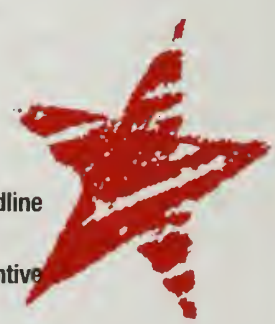
Oct 15, 1996

LCC Reporting Deadline

Dec 16, 1996

LCC Matching Incentive

July 15, 1997



Continued from P.1 *

MCC Sets Budget, Announces \$10 million in 1997 Grants

Although Governor Weld and the State Senate both proposed increases for the MCC in fiscal year 1997, the agency ultimately received level state funding of \$14.1 million. (Following the conclusion of the regular budget process, an additional \$500,000 was received in a legislative earmark for a series of public monuments.) The MCC also receives \$500,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts—although federal budget cuts have reduced this amount from more than \$700,000 two years ago.

Of the \$10 million in awards approved:

- \$5.8 million will be distributed to 413 non-profit cultural organizations through the new Organizational Support Program. In an effort to reduce bureaucracy and duplication of effort, this program replaces what were formerly four separate grant programs. The 1997 allocation to the new program is approximately equal to the amount previously allocated to the four different programs.
- \$3.7 million will be distributed to 336 local cultural councils (LCCs) serving all but two of Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns. LCCs are comprised of local volunteer boards that are responsible for regranting the MCC's funds (and any additional dollars raised locally) according to each community's needs and priorities. LCC allocations are determined by one of the state's local aid formulas.
- \$587,500 will be distributed to 28 community partnerships in the YouthReach Program, an initiative supporting cultural programs for youth at-risk, especially in low-income communities. YouthReach, launched two years ago, has established itself as one of the MCC's priority programs. This year's grants will double the number of communities served.

- \$377,395 will be distributed to 17 community partnerships in the new Education Partnership Initiative. The initiative was launched this year to promote systemic change in how schools educate children in the arts, sciences, and/or humanities. Grants are made to partnerships of cultural organizations, schools, and other community resources.

Grants in other MCC programs will be awarded over the course of this fiscal year. These are:

- Event & Residency: Grants to bring artists into classrooms for short-term events and longer-term residencies. FY97 allocation: \$425,000
- Artist Grants: Fellowships to support outstanding Massachusetts artists. FY97 allocation: \$350,000.
- Science in the Community: A new program, similar to YouthReach, that supports partnerships between science institutions and community organizations, providing science education opportunities for youth at-risk. FY97 allocation: \$217,290.
- Cultural Economic Development: A new program for cultural projects that promote economic or community development. FY97 allocation: \$500,000.

New LCC Field Reps

In August, the MCC announced the establishment of a new network of regionally-based field representatives for the state's 336 LCCs. Three half-time representatives will be hired in different parts of the state to provide hands-on assistance to LCCs in the mechanics and strategies of local grant-making.

With the addition of the new field reps, the MCC will no longer maintain an office in

Springfield. This will reduce the agency's overhead costs. However, the MCC will continue to offer a toll-free number (1-800-232-0960). Also, the Arts Extension Service (at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst) and the Northampton Arts Council have agreed to serve as distribution and drop-off centers for MCC guidelines and applications. Other distribution and drop-off sites may be added in the future.

Program Manager Named

The MCC is pleased to announce the appointment of Beate Becker as Program Manager for the new Cultural Economic Development Program. Becker is a founding director of Shared Interest, a nonprofit organization formed to promote economic development efforts in South Africa after the end of apartheid. She also served as an Investment Officer at U.S. Trust, specializing in socially responsible investing. She joined the MCC on September 30.

Economic Impact Study Underway

The MCC is working with the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) on a study of the nonprofit cultural sector's impact on the Massachusetts economy. Similar studies were conducted in the 1970s and 1980s. NEFA will distribute surveys to cultural organizations and local cultural councils in October. Answers are due to NEFA by November 1. Please respond to the survey so that we have accurate information about the contributions of cultural organizations to the state's economy.

1997 Commonwealth Awards

The 1997 Commonwealth Awards will be held March 4 at the State House in Boston. The awards, given every two years, honor individuals and organizations that contribute to the cultural life of the state. Nominations are currently under review. ■



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Organizations

The first year of the new **Organizational Support Program** culminated on August 28 when the MCC board voted to ratify the panels' recommendations for fiscal year 1997 funding. Last March, 514 cultural organizations across all disciplines submitted applications for this program. Applications were reviewed by peer panels that met from April through July. The board approved funding for 413 groups.

Planning for next year's grant cycle is already underway. The Organizational Support Guidelines and Application will be ready by the end of fall, with applications **due March 3, 1997**. As a result of our experience during the first application cycle for this new program, and with feedback from the public meetings taking place across the state through October, a number of changes and refinements will be incorporated into the new Guidelines. We hope this will make the application process even more accessible and clear.

It is worth noting that the new three-year application cycle only calls for panels in the following disciplines this year: Theater, Local Arts Agencies, Multidisciplinary Community-Based Organizations, Festivals and part of the Music discipline (choral and educational organizations). First-time applicants and unfunded applicants from this year may also apply, regardless of their discipline.

The deadline for the new **Science in the Community Program** is **November 15, 1996**. Science institutions collaborating with community-based organizations and/or organizations with significant public programs in the sciences are encouraged to apply.

The **Professional Development Program** helps organizations and individuals defray

the costs of conferences, workshops, seminars, and master classes. With a deadline at the end of every month, the MCC is receiving an average of 30-40 applications each month. Grants are used to cover travel costs and fees. Grant amounts typically average \$200-\$300, with maximum awards of \$500.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

Recent changes at the state **Department of Education** will effect the pace of education reform. In August, the Board of Education was reduced from 15 to nine members. Following the board's reorganization, the DOE was directed to suspend the development of assessments in the Arts, Comprehensive Health, and World Languages as well as English Language Arts and Social Studies. Curriculum frameworks are still under review for these subjects. Committees in each of the core areas had been meeting monthly since January to prepare sample assessments for pilot testing in 1997. Work to develop assessments in Mathematics and Science and Technology continues this fall.

At the April 1, 1996 deadline for the **Event & Residency Program**, we received 91 applications. We are pleased to announce that 74 projects will be funded this fall. The new 1996/97 Event & Residency Program guidelines were mailed to schools in September. Several changes have been made to this program. Most notably, the minimum grant amount for Event and Extended Event programs will be \$250; therefore, \$250 is the minimum a school can request.

InsideOut

This fall, we distributed the *Cultural Resources Directory Supplement*. It includes contact and program information for 23 artists who have been added to the Event & Residency Program roster. Our next deadline for the artist roster review is **January 15, 1997**. Applications will be accepted in creative writing, dance, music, storytelling, and multidisciplinary (performing/literary arts).

Plans have already begun for the next cycle of our **Education Partnership Initiative**. Guidelines will be available in late November. Partnerships wishing to apply for implementation grants must first submit a pre-proposal outlining their project by **January 31, 1997**. These will be reviewed by a panel in March and applicants will be informed whether or not they have been selected to develop a full proposal. Planning grant applications along with full implementation grant proposals will be due on **April 25, 1997**.



Robert Ayres
Program Officer

Artists

In their efforts to find new resources, artists often call the MCC hoping to learn of ways to get funding for their work. While the highest profile funding for artists remains the very competitive Artist Grants, we do provide artists with assistance through a variety of other programs.

LCC Grants: In each municipality except Boston, artists are eligible to apply for funds for their projects through our Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program. For grant guidelines,



contact the city/town hall in the community where you plan to apply. The annual deadline is on or about October 15.

Professional Development Grants: Grants to support professional development activities are available to individuals as well as cultural organizations. If you are planning to attend a professional conference, workshop, seminar or master class, you can apply to receive partial funding from the MCC. Call us directly for an application. The deadline is the last day of every month.

Massachusetts Touring Roster Review: The New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) administers both a regional and a state program that helps fund the presentation of Massachusetts artists. To access these funds, however, you must first be on the Massachusetts Touring Roster. For the first time in several years, the MCC will be re-viewing its Touring Roster. The application deadline is February 14, 1997. Call us today to be sure you're on the mailing list to receive the application once it is printed.

Event & Residency Grants: The MCC maintains a roster of artists whose work in schools can be supported through our Event & Residency Program. If you are interested in pursuing work as an artist in the Massachusetts schools, please call our Education Department for more information. Disciplines are reviewed in two-year cycles. The next application deadline is January 15, 1997 when the following disciplines will be re-viewed: Creative Writing, Dance, Multidisciplinary (Performing/Literary Arts), Music, and Storytelling.

Communities Department staff have been busy preparing for the activities of fiscal year 1997. Many materials have been distributed to LCCs. Please call Sue Romiti at 1-800-232-0960 x348 if your LCC has not received these materials:

The **FY97 allocation and reporting package** details the amount of funding available for regranting at the local level by an LCC. October 15 is the statewide deadline for applicants to submit proposals to LCCs, who in turn must report their funding decisions to the MCC by December 16.

Guidelines for a new pilot program, the **LCC Matching Incentive Program**, were mailed to LCCs in July. This initiative is designed to foster the development of local matching grants for LCCs.

The **revised LCC Program Regulations and Guidelines** were distributed in August. LCC chairs were sent copies for all members.

Be on the lookout for two additional resources that the MCC is developing with Arts Extension Service:

- ▶ A **bi-monthly news bulletin** targeted to LCC members, to be launched in October.
- ▶ A **handbook for municipalities** that explains the LCC Program to local officials and city/town employees, to be distributed in November.

Let me also update you about **personnel changes** within the department. We extend our best wishes to Veta Weir, LCC Program Coordinator for Western Massachusetts, who has left the MCC to pursue a graduate business degree at Babson College. Veta's replacement, Karin Trachtenberg, joined us in October. Our three part-time field representatives will be on board by November.

New regional staff assignments by county are as follows:

- ▶ Lisa Hergenrother: Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket
- ▶ Kathleen Perna: Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire and part of Worcester
- ▶ Sue Romiti: Bristol, Norfolk, Plymouth and part of Worcester
- ▶ Karin Trachtenberg: Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk and part of Worcester



The MCC is well into its new fiscal year (FY97), having closed out FY96 in July.

Thanks to all of you who met our deadline for submitting **Fiscal Year 1996 Final Reports**. This is important information that we use to account for how public dollars were spent and their impact. In addition, the MCC annually compiles final report data and supplies it to the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies to bolster their advocacy efforts.

Award letters and contract packages have been mailed to our initial batch of FY97 grant recipients. We have made a concerted effort to simplify the content and improve the format of the contract package. One important change to this year's package is the MCC's expanded credit and publicity requirements. Please be sure to read the package thoroughly and call us with any questions you may have.

The MCC will be connected to the **Internet** by November. You will be able to send e-mail directly to staff, or to the agency's primary e-mail address. Stay tuned for more information. Our next project will be an MCC web page, which we plan to have in operation by summer 1997.

New Education Partnerships Infuse Curricula with Culture

For example, a partnership involving the Worcester Public School system is led by the Alliance for Education, a group known for its professional development activities, but will also involve three Worcester cultural organizations (Worcester Art Museum, Higgins Armory Museum, and Worcester Children's Theatre) and Allmerica Financial, a business that will provide public relations and other support.

"We really like the fact we are working with such different groups," said Jonathan Rappaport, arts liaison for Worcester schools.

Since partnerships can be challenging to administer, the MCC has organized seminars in collaborative planning for all of this year's recipients. A one-day session for implementation grant recipients was held in Fitchburg in September. Planning grant recipients will attend a two-day program in October.

"The workshop provided an opportunity for us to clarify ambiguities within the project," said Eleanor Lazarus of the DeCordova Museum.

"The partners who attended are much better informed and prepared to move forward."

There is a broad geographic diversity in the first round of grants. Two of the four implementation grants will focus on Boston schools; the other two implementation grants and 13 planning grants are distributed across the state.

"We weren't surprised that Boston fared well in the implementation pool," said Guidice. "The city made a major commitment to cultural education reform more than two years ago, and is now ready to move on a number of fronts."

The MCC hopes that the 13 planning grants just awarded will help build similar commitments in other communities—many of which are then expected to submit implementation grant proposals next year.

"The Boston School Committee approved our 1994 arts education policy and committed \$2 million to implementation of the policy at the elementary level. Our grant with Arts in Progress gives us a chance to build on that

commitment by extending implementation to the secondary level," said Kathy Tosolini, arts coordinator for the Boston Public Schools. The partnership will focus on one high school and the nine middle schools with the least access to cultural resources.

In designing the Education Partnership Initiative, the MCC drew on a program pioneered by the National Endowment for the Arts, called Arts Plus. The MCC also looked at programs in North Carolina, Alabama, and elsewhere for models. The Mass. Department of Education worked with the MCC to help ensure that the program meshed with state education goals and reform act guidelines.

"This grant really got people excited in the arts community," said Tosolini. "We're eager to begin work with our cultural partners." ■

1997 Education Partnership Initiative Grant Recipients and Collaborators

Implementation Grants

Arts in Progress, Boston

Boston Public Schools, Art of Black Dance & Music, Boston Conservatory, Community Music Center of Boston, Emerson College, Troubadour, Boston Partners in Education, Boston Private Industry Council

Young Audiences of Massachusetts, Cambridge

Boston Public Schools, Celebrity Series of Boston, Huntington Theatre, Handel & Haydn Society, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists, Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion

DeCordova & Dana Museum/Sculpture Park, Lincoln

Lincoln Public Schools, Graham & Parks Alternative Public School (Cambridge), Haggerty Elem. School (Cambridge), Underground Railway Theater, President & Fellows of Harvard College (Project Zero)

Springfield Library and Museums Assn., Springfield

Springfield Public Schools, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Westfield State College

Planning Grants

Cambridge Community Television, Cambridge

Cambridge Public Schools, The Community Art Center, Cambridge Community Services

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket

Pittsfield Public Schools, Berkshire Museum, West Side Neighborhood Coalition

Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield

Frontier Regional School District, Straight Ahead Pictures, Deerfield Arts Partnership

The Discovery Museums, Acton

Uxbridge Public Schools, Worcester Center for Crafts, Uxbridge Police Department

Alliance for Education, Worcester

Worcester Public Schools, Worcester Art Museum, Very Special Arts Massachusetts, Worcester Children's Theater, Higgins Armory Museum, Anna Maria College, Allmerica Financial

Center for Coastal Studies, Provincetown

Provincetown Public Schools, Fine Arts Work Center, Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Provincetown Art Association & Museum, Lower Cape Communications, Cape Cod National Seashore, Provincetown Community Compact, Seaman's Bank

Wheelock Family Theatre, Boston

Cambridge Public Schools, Studebaker Theater, Wheelock College

Chinese Culture Connection, Reading

Reading Public Schools, Peabody Essex Museum, Lexington Chinese Language School, Boston Chinatown Business Association

New England Science Center, Worcester

Clinton Public Schools, Clinton Historical Society, Nashua River Watershed Association, Bigelow Free Public Library

Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover

Lawrence Public Schools, Peabody Museum of Archaeology, Essex Arts Center, United Native American Cultural Center, The White Fund

UMASS Lowell Research Foundation, Lowell

Lowell Public Schools, New England Folklife Center, Citywide Parent Council

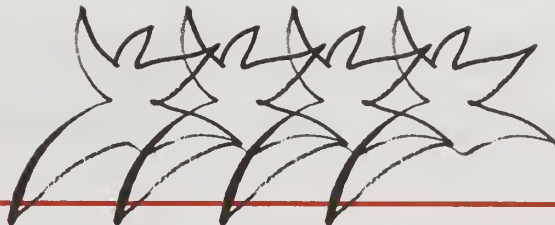
Historic Northampton, Northampton

Hampshire Educational Collaborative, Enchanted Circle Theatre, Hampshire County School to Work Partnership

New England Wild Flower Society, Framingham

Framingham Public Schools, Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham State College

Cultural Inks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

Cultural Entrepreneur\$hip—Idea\$ that Work, a presentation of innovative ways organizations can make money, expand audiences, and increase awareness. Oct 24 in Wenham, MA. \$15. Contact: Mary Hayes, MA Office of Travel and Tourism 617-727-3201 x245.

Historic Facilities—Looking Outside the Four Walls looks at how to satisfy modern-day requirements, keep up with maintenance needs, and make your facility more user-friendly. Nov 21 in Concord, MA. \$15. Contact: Mary Hayes, MA Office of Travel and Tourism 617-727-3201 x245.

North Country Studio Conference includes workshops in woodturning, glass work, quilting, jewelry, clay, drawing, basketry, photo collage, and bookmaking. Feb 5-9. Full residencies and commuter opportunities available. Contact: North Country Studio Conference, PO Box 875, Hanover, NH 03755; 603-795-2889.

The Community as Classroom, Carnegie Hall Education Conference for professionals in music, education, and the arts will be held Mar 22-26 in New York City. Contact: Carnegie Hall Education Dept. 212-903-9670.

Call for Entries

Emerging Artists '97, an International Soho Group Exhibition to be held in Feb 1997, seeks entries in all media. First prize \$1000. Oct 30 deadline. For prospectus, send SASE to Slowinski Gallery, 215 Mulberry St., NY, NY 10012.

New Arts Program seeks narrative, experimental, and documentary videos for its annual Video Festival. Dec 25 deadline. Contact: NAP Video Festival '97, PO Box 82, 173 W. Main Street, Kutztown, PA 19530; 610-683-6440.

K Street Publications seeks entries for the 2nd vol. of *Artists Avenue*, an art directory on CD-ROM, which allows artists access to a global marketplace. Ongoing deadline. All media. Contact: Hilary DePolo 800-557-2230.

Tenth Annual Women in the Visual Arts

Exhibition. Any media except video and jewelry. Nov 15 slide deadline. Contact: Erector Square Gallery, 315 Peck St., New Haven, CT 06513.

Fellowships

Expansion Arts Organization, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, supports projects of professionally-directed arts organizations deeply rooted in and reflective of ethnically diverse, inner city, and rural or tribal communities. Grants from \$5,000-\$20,000. No deadline. Contact: the NEA 202-682-5786.

The Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Arts Fund offers planning grants for its Partners Program, which supports audience-development projects through active collaborations among artists, community groups, and presenting organizations. Feb 7 intent to apply deadline. Contact: 202-833-2787.

Museum Loan Network, to encourage and facilitate the long-term borrowing and lending of art objects among U.S. Museums, offers grants from \$2,300-\$24,000. Nov 15 deadline. Contact: Lori Gross 617-252-1888.

Residencies

Anderson Ranch Arts Center offers workshops, visiting artist program, and artist-in-residence program. Contact: James Baker, PO Box 5598, 5263 Owl Creek Rd, Snowmass Village, CO 81615; 970-923-3181.

The Millay Colony offers one-month residencies for writers, composers, and visual artists in upstate New York. Ongoing deadline. Contact: The Millay Colony, East Hill Road, PO Box 3, Austerlitz, NY 12017; 518-392-3103.

Vermont Studio Center offers six two-week Writing Studio Sessions in fiction, creative

nonfiction, and poetry during Feb-Apr 1997. Two 12-week Writing Residencies also available. Ongoing deadline. Financial assistance available. Contact: Vermont Studio Center, PO Box 613 NW, Johnson, VT 05656; 802-635-2727.

Resources

US Dept. of Education's Rehabilitation Services Administration offers funding for training and hiring people with disabilities as well as arts programs that involve people with disabilities. Contact: Tom Finch 202-205-8292.

Business and the Arts: Building Partnerships for the Future, by the Business Committee for the Arts, helps arts organizations build lasting partnerships with small and midsize businesses. It offers a step-by-step approach to identify, approach, and sustain business partners. Send check for \$7.50 to: Publications, BCA, 1775 Broadway, Suite 510, NY, NY 10019; 212-664-0600.

Arts Funding Revisited: An Update on Foundation Trends in the 1990s compares the changes in foundation funding in all fields with changes in government support. \$14.95 plus shipping. Contact: The Foundation Center, 79 Fifth Avenue, Dept. AO, NY, NY 10003-3076; 800-424-9836.

Support Center of Massachusetts has applications to participate in the Accounting Assistance Program for nonprofit organizations seeking help with financial management. Service is free to MA 501(c)(3) nonprofits with an annual budget of less than \$500,000, and which do not retain an accountant on a regular basis. Open deadline. Contact: SC of MA, 41 Winter Street, Suite 55, Boston, MA 02108-4722; 617-338-1331.

Money for Artists is a quarterly list of current juried competitions for cash or purchase awards, government and private foundation grants, and fellowships. \$15 for 4 issues. Contact: Jennifer L. MacDonald, 270 Milledge Heights, Athens, GA 30606; 706-613-2112.

Artist Grants Fellows Featured in Upcoming Fall/Winter Performances

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) will present to the public the work of 1995 Artist Grants recipients in Music Composition and Playwrighting/New Theater Works, beginning in October.



photo by Susan Wilson

Artist Grants recipient Abby Rabinovitz

The New England Conservatory is partnering with the MCC to present the composers. In early October, world music creators Brian Folkins-Amador and Abby Rabinovitz were featured in concerts at the Zeiterion Theatre in New Bedford and at Jordan Hall in Boston.

In January, the work of the two other recipients in music composition—classical composers David Kechley and Peter Blanchette—will be presented. Performances will be at Jordan Hall on Saturday, January 18 at 8:00pm and at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on Sunday, January 19 at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$8-\$14, with discounts available for students and seniors. For Jordan Hall tickets, call 617-536-2414. For Mechanics Hall tickets, call 508-752-0888.

In November and December, the Huntington Theatre Company and the MCC will present "Breaking Ground," two weekends of staged readings of recent plays by Playwrighting/New Theater Works Artist Grants recipients.

Works by Marilyn Felt, Wendy Kesselman, Joan Larkin, and Tug Yourgrau will be read at the Boston University Theatre, home of the Huntington Theatre Company, on the afternoons and evenings of Saturday, November 30 and Sunday, December 1. The series will be repeated on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 at the Shea Theater in Turners Falls. Tickets are \$5. For information, call the Huntington at 617-266-0800, or the Shea Theater at 413-863-2281.

In 1997, the MCC will present the work of 1996 recipients in Choreography, Fiction, and Poetry.



photo by Susan Wilson

Artist Grants recipient Brian Folkins-Amador (second from the right) with Sol y Canto



Logo design by Studio A

National Arts and Humanities Month

October

National Arts and Humanities Month kicked off October 1. This is the fourth year of this celebration that promotes the contributions of the arts and humanities to the well-being of our communities.

The primary goals of the campaign are to provide local and national focus on the arts and humanities through media for both the general public and the cultural community; encourage active involvement of arts, humanities, and other interested organizations; to get elected officials and business and civic leaders to declare their support for the arts and humanities; and to increase public awareness for the arts and humanities.

For ideas on how you can participate, contact the MCC for a copy of "101 Things You Can Do to Celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month-October 1996" (1-800-232-0960).

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Get the word out about public funding, page 2

Mass. Perceptions on Culture Revealed

Summary of focus group findings, page 6

CulturaLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

1997 Commonwealth Awards

Recipients and details on March 4 event, page 8

Gov. Recommends \$1.1 Million Increase for MCC

Governor William Weld recommended a \$1.1 million budget increase for the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) in fiscal year 1998. Weld's proposal, part of the state spending plan released in January, would raise the MCC's unrestricted budget from \$14.1 to \$15.2 million.

"This is very good news, and we're very grateful for Governor Weld's continuing support," said Peter Nessen, MCC Chair. "It's great to have a governor who recognizes the role that cultural programs play in our communities, our schools, and our economy."

According to MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley, "An increase would allow us to increase funding for initiatives that serve youth and elders, and for an economic development program geared to the not-for-profit cultural sector."

Continued on P.3 *

Project Benefits MA Cultural Facilities Public-Private Partnership Provides Range of Services to Organizations

In just over one year of operation, the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project (MCFP) has established itself as the Massachusetts Cultural Council's largest and most far-reaching public-private partnership to date.

The purpose of the MCFP is to promote a thoughtful, strategic approach to the planning and development of cultural facilities in the state. A collaboration between the MCC, the Nonprofit Facilities Fund (a New York not-for-profit), and the New England Foundation for the Arts, MCFP provides a combination of workshops and other advisory services, planning grants, and low-interest loans for Massachusetts not-for-profit cultural organizations.

"Facility projects can be exciting, but in this financial climate, organizations must plan carefully and match their project to their organizational and fundraising capacity," said Ellen Spear, MCFP Program Manager. "MCFP offers technical assistance with a financial incentive toward that end."

MCFP's philosophy was shaped in part by a 1992 study, which showed that facilities dominate cultural organizations' budgets to an extent rarely seen in other sectors. In spite of this, they are often managed as if they were peripheral to the health of an organization.

The study also found several common weaknesses in facilities planning. Too many projects are driven by a real estate "opportunity" rather than mission and program. Many projects are more expensive than organizations can comfortably handle. Many projects are also developed without external help, by staff who often lack expertise in facilities projects.

"Programs and facilities are inextricably linked," said Spear. "But facilities are a means, not an end. We try to help organizations find ways to get the largest return they can from the smallest reasonable investment in their facility."

In its first 15 months of operation, MCFP has served more than 330 organizations of all sizes from all parts of the state. Ninety-five organizations have participated in the MCFP's two-day Advanced Planning Seminar. (The workshop has been offered nine times so far and has been fully subscribed each time.) Twenty-two organizations have received planning grants totaling almost \$175,000. The first two loans, totaling \$650,000, were recently approved subject to various conditions. Three more loans are under consideration.

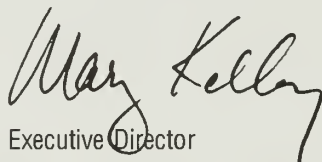
"The seminar got us charged up," said seminar participant and planning grant recipient Richard Ardizzone, Associate Director of the Joy of Music Program in Worcester. "We began board training immediately based on information we received at the seminar."

Continued on P.3 *

In the focus groups we organized last year, we learned that the average Massachusetts resident believes that corporations are the largest funding source for the arts and humanities. Government funding is perceived as minimal at best. Corporate underwriting is vital, of course, but for many cultural organizations in our state, public sector funding exceeds total corporate support. This points out that corporations have ensured excellent recognition for every dollar they have spent on cultural programs—this is simply good marketing on their part.

The burden is on all of us to provide the public with information about what public funding accomplishes. In Massachusetts it is the source of countless educational programs, and it helps both small and large cultural organizations carry out their missions for the public benefit. It often funds a child's ticket to a live performance; it can underwrite an historical museum's outreach program in the community. There are 349 towns across the Commonwealth that support important programs in their community through their local cultural councils. The Massachusetts Cultural Council funds each one.

Our marketing efforts are minimal—our monies must go directly to our communities and constituents. This means your word of mouth and crediting efforts are even more important. Governor Weld has recommended a \$1.1 million dollar increase in our budget for next year. We applaud his lead and hope you will too, by continuing to get the word out.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Lisa Safier. Editor/Writer: Lisa Safier. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen. Writer: Charlie McDermott.

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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1997 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Intents: Feb 21, 1997
Final Proposals: Mar 21, 1997

Cultural Economic Development

Final Proposals: Cycle I Feb 10, 1997
Cycle II March 31, 1997

Science in the Community

Nov 15, 1996

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Apr 1, 1997 Oct 1, 1997 (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Touring Program

Mar 3, 1997 Jun 3, 1997 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

Feb 14, 1997

ADA Mini-Grants

Intents: Jan 24, 1997 Final Proposals: Mar 21, 1997 (617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Professional Development

Last day of each month

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Program

Nov 1, 1996 Apr 1, 1997

Education Partnership

Pre-Proposals: Jan 31, 1997
Final Proposals: Apr 25, 1997

Event & Residency Roster Review

Jan 15, 1997

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY97 Disciplines: Music Composition and Playwrighting/New Theater Works
Jan 24, 1997

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY97 Disciplines: Crafts, Photography, and Sculpture
Feb 21, 1997 (617-951-0010)

Media Fellowships

May 1, 1997 (617-536-1540)

COMMUNITIES

LCC Grants

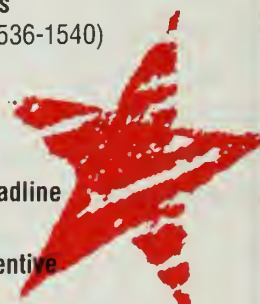
Oct 15, 1996

LCC Reporting Deadline

Dec 16, 1996

LCC Matching Incentive

July 15, 1997



InsideView

Continued from P.1 *

Weld Recommends \$1.1M Increase

Release of the governor's spending plan is the first step in the legislative process for determining the state budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. Next, the House and Senate will formulate their own budget proposals.

The final budget will be worked out in a House-Senate conference committee, probably in June. The bill will then be sent to the governor for his signature.

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Cultural Facilities Program Provides Range of Services

"The planning grant is enabling us to focus on board education. It will help us make good decisions about our facility needs," Ardizzone explained.

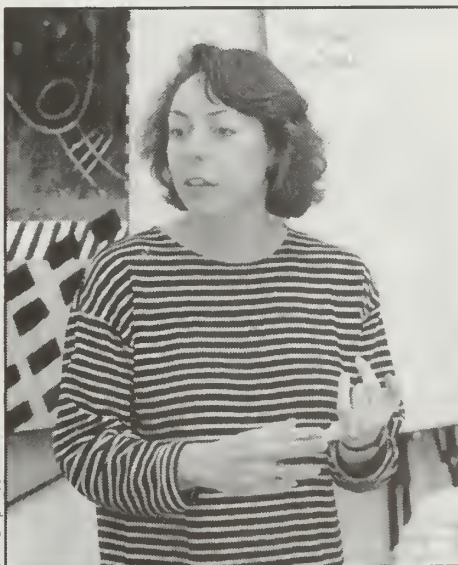
To date, the MCC has contributed \$2.5 million to the launch and capitalization of MCFP: \$1.0 million for grants and operations and \$1.5 million for the low-interest loan fund. This has been matched by \$1.5 million from the Nonprofit Facilities Fund (for the loan fund) and approximately \$30,000 from other funders. Investment and interest income from the loan pool is also used to offset MCFP operation costs. MCFP recently incorporated as an independent 501(c)(3), but each of the three founding partners remain a part of its governing structure.

MCFP workshops, grants, and loans are complementary pieces of a program that, above all, encourage careful planning. The workshops help organizations understand the fundamentals of facility planning. Planning grants provide the "early money" that enables organizations to get the help they need before committing to a course of action. The loan program allows organizations

The MCC has requested a total of \$16.2 million for 1998. The MCC's peak funding year was 1988, when it received \$27 million. This fell to \$3.5 million in 1992, but the agency has received five straight increases since that time. The current year's budget is \$14.1 million for the MCC's regular grant programs and operations, plus \$500,000 earmarked by the legislature for a series of public monuments around the state.

with little borrowing history to secure affordable financing.

Organizations are encouraged to attend one of the MCFP seminars before applying for a planning grant or loan. The seminars deal with issues related to facility planning and development, with an emphasis on financial planning. They address such practical topics as: renting versus owning; assessing organizational readiness to take on a facili-



Ellen Spear, MCFP Program Manager, leads a seminar on facilities planning.

Clinton Supports Increases for Arts and Humanities in State of the Union Address

During his State of the Union Address on February 4, President Clinton told Congress that enough cuts had already been made "on our modest efforts to support the arts and humanities."

Clinton's fiscal year 1998 budget request for the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) is \$136 million (equal to his 1997 recommendation). During each of the last two years, the NEA received appropriations of \$99.5 million, after a 40% budget cut in 1996.

ties project; and maintaining control of costs through the construction process.

"Planning is messy. It's difficult and nonlinear," Spear said. "The workshops help people manage the planning process and ask better questions."

In the coming year, MCFP will expand its roster of advisory services, to include several new workshops. These will include three new half-day sessions: *Getting Ready for a Facilities Project: What Small Organizations Need to Know*; *Strategies for ADA Compliance*; and *Borrowing for a Facilities Project*.

Much of the credit for MCFP's fruition over the past year is due to Ellen Spear, who assumed the program manager position last spring. Previously, she was executive director of the USS Constitution Museum and coordinator of the New Jersey Council on the Arts' Cultural Centers Program, a \$40 million facilities granting program.

MCFP's office is located within the MCC's own offices, at 120 Boylston Street in Boston. Applications for grants and loans are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, contact MCFP at 617-727-8447.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Organizations

Organizational Support Program guidelines are now available. The **new application deadline** is **March 21, 1997**. A series of public information meetings will be held across the state through February and early March to review the new guidelines and answer questions. Dates and locations are in the guidelines and applicants are urged to attend.

Charles D. Coe is the new Program Coordinator for Literature, Music, and Folk Arts and Ethnic Heritage. Already a visible presence in the cultural community in Massachusetts as a writer, Charles will be in touch personally with his constituents over the next few months. Music I and Music II groups especially should note this change since they are part of the upcoming Organizational Support review.

The first panel review for the new **Science in the Community Program** took place in January. Twelve projects were recommended for funding in communities statewide. The allocation for this program for the current fiscal year is \$217,290.

Program staff attended a number of conferences and workshops through the fall and winter. These included the New England Museum Association's annual meeting in NH; the Association of Science Technology Centers in Pittsburgh; the New England Theater Conference in RI; the Alliance for Community Media in Hyannis; Building For Our Community/Construyendo Nuestra Comunidad, sponsored by the Hispanic Office of Planning and Evaluation; and Build Boston, organized by the Boston Society of Architects. These meetings provide valuable opportunities for MCC staff to keep abreast of new developments and technology, information which

can then be passed on to our constituents.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

The Education Department has two new staff members. **Laura Schofield** joined us in December as the Event & Residency Program Coordinator. **Sabrina Moyle** is our new Program Associate.

In November, we received 176 **Event & Residency Program** applications for spring projects; 137 will receive funding. The grant review panels applauded the commitment that many schools made to integrate the arts into their curriculum. However, panelists encouraged applicants to be more thorough and creative in their evaluation plans.

In January, the **Massachusetts Board of Education (MBOE)** voted to approve curriculum frameworks for English language arts, pending several final revisions. Discussion continues regarding frameworks for history and social studies. In October, the MBOE reviewed and rejected a social studies framework outline developed by a newly constituted committee. A sub-committee of three MBOE members was then appointed to develop their own draft.

The MBOE's January meeting included presentations by educators and scholars both for and against the most recent version of history and social studies curriculum. Many voiced concern regarding the process by which this draft was created and encouraged the Dept. of Education (DOE) to continue developing the

InsideOut

frameworks through an open, public process. The MBOE voted to revise the social studies framework further and utilize the work of the MBOE sub-committee and members of the previous outside committees. They hope to have a final document by May.

In a recent address before members of the cultural community, MBOE Chair Dr. John Silber acknowledged the importance of partnerships between schools, artists, and cultural organizations, and encouraged their continuation. He announced that the Arts Curriculum Framework would be undergoing some revisions. The DOE hopes to complete the changes for MBOE approval by September.



Robert Ayres
Program Officer

Artists

This spring and summer, the MCC will convene **meetings of artists** across the Commonwealth. These sessions will provide artists with technical assistance and serve as a forum in which the MCC can learn how to best invest its resources to improve the lot of all artists. The forum can also provide opportunities for artists to meet one another and discuss issues of common concern.

We are still developing the technical assistance content of these sessions, and would like to know what kind of workshops you might be interested in attending. For example, we have frequently heard that artists have a hard time getting adequate press attention for their work, and

a workshop with a media relations professional might provide some quick results. If you have suggestions for workshop topics, contact me at 800-232-0960 x354 or at rob@art.state.ma.us.

At each workshop, time will be set aside for you to share your ideas on how the MCC could use its resources to develop service projects that would assist artists. "Service projects" is a term describing the MCC's non-granting programs and initiatives. Fellowship programs, like the Artist Grants Program, provide substantial funding directly to a small percentage of artists in recognition of excellence, but grants don't benefit the community of artists as a whole.

Service projects can be the most effective and useful way to benefit the broadest range of artists. In preparation for this discussion, please consider the *systematic* barriers that have prevented you from producing and sharing your creative work. Consider how MCC resources might be applied to provide leverage against such barriers. For example, artists across the state, regardless of genre, have difficulties finding out about professional resources (e.g. performance/exhibition opportunities, affordable live/work space, obtaining affordable health care). If common concerns can be identified, the MCC can design service initiatives accordingly.

On January 24, we received 136 **Artist Grants Program** submissions for the Music Composition fellowships, and 164 applications for Playwrighting/New Theater Works grants. Applicants will be notified in late June, following panel and board reviews. Best of luck in this very competitive grant program!

Application packages submitted in December from LCCs continue to be processed. We appreciate the hard work of LCC members in this extensive local-state partnership that makes public funding available on the grassroots level. A great deal of staff time is invested into examining applications and number crunching. Thanks for your prompt attention when we request more information or clarification about your grant materials.

We are pleased to announce the establishment of a regionally-based **field representative network**. Three field representatives have been with us since December. A Communities Department staff person is paired with each representative, creating a team of human resources.

The new field representatives and their assigned counties are:

- Rosalie DeQuattro (Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk, and part of Worcester) 508-266-9826 Email: rosiedq@aol.com
- Dyan Wiley (Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, and part of Worcester) 413-549-0081 Email: dyan@admin.umass.edu
- Patricia Walker (Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, and part of Worcester) 508-385-2621 Email: paw@capecod.net

The field representatives will offer guidance and training for LCCs, and will serve as regional conveners and facilitators in the sharing of models and resources.

Information on **spring regional gatherings** for LCCs will be available soon. These gatherings provide an excellent opportunity to network with peer LCC members; to put a name with a face by meeting MCC

staff; and to learn some useful tips about the LCC Program. These gatherings are a worthy investment of time; you will enjoy yourself and learn tips that will help you administer the LCC Program.



Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer

Systems

The Fiscal Department recently bid farewell to Contracts Specialist **Renee Lindsay**. She is continuing graduate school at Boston College. In her place, we have hired **Mary McCarthy**. Mary's name may be familiar to many of you—she was the Contracts Specialist from 1992 to 1995. Mary's ready to answer your contract questions at 800-232-0960 x332.

We would also like to welcome **Beth Cohen** to the MCC. Beth will provide support for the Fiscal Department and the Cultural Economic Development Program.

We are in the process of reviewing and modifying contract packages and instructions as well as our internal procedures for fiscal year 1998. Our objective is to simplify the steps involved in completing an MCC contract package. Several components (the Terms & Conditions, W-9 and in some cases, the actual contract) need outside approval by the State Comptroller's Office, adding time to the payment process. Our goal is to improve the flow of paperwork to the Comptroller's Office so we can pay our grantees in the shortest amount of time possible.

If you haven't returned your fiscal year 1997 contract package, please do so (they were due to us in December).

Massachusetts Perceptions on Culture Revealed

Last summer the MCC conducted two sets of focus groups in Boston and Springfield to learn what the public's perceptions were about the arts and culture, arts in education, and public funding and the MCC.

Participants in the study were urban and suburban males and females; a mix of races; and a combination of parents and non-parents. Each had at least two years of post-secondary education, and had to have attended at least one live performance in the past year. Subscribers of cultural organizations were deliberately excluded, however, in an attempt to measure attitudes beyond the population of known cultural consumers.

General Perceptions

Both sets of focus groups viewed arts and culture as valuable to society, especially to children. Participants felt Massachusetts is a state with a high level of arts and culture, and a positive and desirable place to live, as

a result. When asked what they perceived the arts industry to be, they almost universally thought of it as consisting of popular music, movies, and commercial theater and had little awareness of the not-for-profit cultural industry.

Arts in Education

In response to questions about arts in the schools, the focus groups had only positive comments for keeping the arts in school curricula. Participants felt that the arts helped with learning other subjects.

In all groups, parents and grandparents were seen as the key to learning about arts and culture at home. However, economic pressures and time were seen as reasons that families did not participate in cultural activities, and why the arts are viewed as luxuries. Ticket prices for popular shows are seen as out-of-reach for many working people and youths. The more committed

participants seek out free and inexpensive activities for themselves and their children due to more deeply held values for arts and culture.

Public Funding

None of the participants knew how much the state invested in Massachusetts arts and culture. All four groups referred to the National Endowment for the Arts Mapplethorpe controversy during this segment of the conversation. However, when asked whether the state should be funding arts and culture, everyone voted yes. The study found participants generally unaware of the state's role in funding cultural programs.

Follow-Up

Larger issues were raised in the focus group study than the cultural community could single-handedly attempt to address. However, the MCC, in partnership with grant recipients, is taking steps to deal with limited perceptions about public funding for not-for-profit cultural activities. This fiscal year the MCC modified crediting and publicity requirements for grant recipients—a first step towards increasing the visibility of public funding and its impact on cultural activities in Massachusetts. New credit policies are also being developed for local cultural councils.

The focus group made clear that there is broad-based support of public funding for culture in the state. The impact of that support will not be recognized, however, without sustained, consistent messages about the impact of the public investment—occasional rallies do not suffice. The MCC appreciates the efforts of the cultural community in informing audiences about how public funds support their work.

To share suggestions and success stories, call Lisa Safier at 800-232-0960 x343 or email lisas@art.state.ma.us. For a focus groups report summary, call 800-232-0960/TTY 617-338-9153.

Opportunities in Cultural Tourism

Regardless of what level tourism plays in the financial health of your organization, upcoming opportunities can enhance your efforts.

On-Going Workshops

The annual "Cultural Tourism: Get into the Loop" workshop series continues to be offered by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT), in partnership with the MCC and other sponsors. The workshops offer half-day, hands-on approaches and advice on various aspects of reaching out to the over 28 million tourists who visit the Commonwealth annually.

Upcoming spring workshops include information on audience building, shaping and communicating messages, and public relations basics. (See page 7 for details.)

Governor's Conference

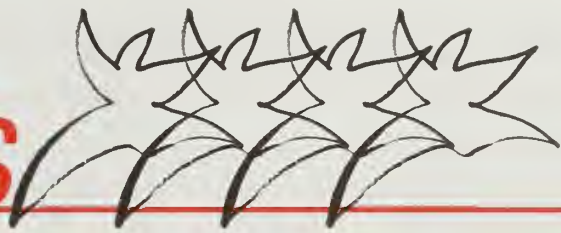
Cultural tourism is a focus of this year's Annual Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism, "Tourism in the New Millennium: Looking Toward the Future," sponsored by MOTT on April 17-18 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. This event will feature local and national leaders in cultural tourism efforts, and workshops geared to the needs of cultural organizations and small businesses. The conference also provides an opportunity to network within the industry and to find ways we can work together at the local and state levels for mutual benefit.

Conference workshop topics include: the family vacation market; marketing partnerships that work; international travel trade; heritage and cultural tourism; and how to be included in tour operator itineraries. Registration is \$160. Call Mary Hayes at MOTT at 617-727-3201 x245.

Registration Subsidies

The MCC's Professional Development Program can provide funding for the events listed above. Call 800-232-0960 x329.

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

Building a Base, presented by the MA Office of Travel & Tourism, is a one day course in how to identify and segment audiences, shape and communicate your message, and grow awareness. Mar 20 at the Preservation Worcester Headquarters, Worcester. \$15. Contact: Mary Hayes 617-727-3201 x245.

Public Relations-Behind the Smoke and Mirrors, sponsored by the MA Office of Travel & Tourism, offers the basics of public relations. Apr 30 in Greenfield, MA. \$15. Contact: Historic Massachusetts 617-723-3383.

Connecting Art and Community, two professional development programs offered by Arts Extension Service, are for arts, civic, and community development leaders to explore community betterment through the arts. Mar 20-22 in Springfield and Jun 26-28 in Amherst. Contact: 413-545-2360 or aes@admin.umass.edu.

Copyright for Musicians and Writers, presented by Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, gives musicians (Mar 13) and writers (Apr 10) up to 30 minutes of one-on-one time with an attorney to discuss issues relating to copyright. 4-7:30 pm in Boston. \$5. For mandatory sign-up contact: 617-523-1764.

Call for Entries

First Night is accepting proposals in all visual and performing arts mediums for First Night '98 to take place Dec 31, 1997. Mar 24 deadline. Contact: 617-542-1399.

Berkshire Art Association seeks entries for 1997 juried exhibition of works on paper to

be held at the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield Aug 23-Oct 19. May 1 deadline. For prospectus, send SASE to: Berkshire Art Association, PO Box 829, Stockbridge, MA 01262-0829.

National Poetry Competition offers cash awards and publication. Mar 31 deadline. Send SASE to: Chester H. Jones Foundation, PO Box 498, Chardon, OH 44024.

Hyperbole Studios invites visual artists to show work on the World Wide Web on their on-line gallery. Send SASE to: Hyperbole Studios, Attn: C. Blackmore, 2222 Fourth Ave., 2nd Fl., Seattle, WA 98121.

Arts Wire CURRENT seeks contributions of news updates on social, economic philosophical, and political issues affecting arts and culture. Contact: Judy Malloy, editor at jmalloy@artswire.org.

Funding

Albert A. List Foundation makes grants of \$5,000-50,000 in four areas including freedom of expression/cultural arts, primarily to regional and national organizations. May 1 preliminary application deadline. Contact: Mary Frey Bennett 212-799-1090.

National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA) offers modest quarterly grants to composers, choreographers, pianists, vocalists, and ballet dancers who need timely financial assistance to take advantage of a specific career opportunity. Contact: Wendy Wheeler 305-377-1144.

Aaron Siskind Foundation offers individual fellowships of up to \$5,000 to support ongoing work in photography and related media. Send SASE to: The Aaron Siskind Foundation c/o School for Visual Arts, MFA Photography, 214 E. 21st St., NY, NY 10010.

Ongoing Change Inc. assists artists of all disciplines in need of emergency aid. Grants from \$100-\$500. Contact: 212-473-3742.

Residencies

Chamber Music America's 1997-98 Ensemble Residency Program offers a 3-year residency/support opportunity for chamber ensembles. Mar 7 deadline. Contact: Chamber Music America, 305 Seventh Ave., NY, NY 10001; 212-242-2022.

Go Wild! 24-hour information hotline offers a free, updated list of Artist in Residence programs available in the national parks. Contact: 612-290-9421.

Resources

The Chinese Culture Institute provides 3,000 sq. ft. of gallery space in Boston, full-time staff, and mailing list, all free of charge to qualified artists to exhibit at the CCI Gallery. Contact: 508-655-7076 or 617-542-4599.

Art Marketing Sourcebook for the Fine Artist, features over 3,000 specialty markets. Compiled to create more sales leads for fine artists. 240 pages. \$21.95 + \$3 s/h. Contact: ArtNetwork, 18757 Wildflower Dr., Penn Valley, CA 95946; 916-432-7630.

OPTIONS! is a monthly newsletter for visual artists listing competitions, calls for entries, slide registries, WWW connections, and other resources. \$16 a year (12 issues). Contact: Pardus, Inc., 28 Moya Loop, Santa Fe, NM 87505; 505-466-9824.

A Handbook for Cultural Exchange offers frameworks for thinking about cultural exchange and practical advice for participants. It covers planning, fundraising, evaluation, international contacts, and more. Contact: British American Arts Association, 116 Commercial Street, London E1 6NF, United Kingdom; or call 0171 247 5385.



1997 Commonwealth Awards Announced

10 Awards for Extraordinary Contributions in the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences To Be Presented March 4

The 1997 Commonwealth Awards, the state's highest honor for contributions in the arts, humanities and sciences, will be awarded on March 4 at a public celebration at the Massachusetts State House.

"The Commonwealth Awards are given in recognition of the enormous contributions made by both famous and lesser-known individuals and organizations in enhancing the richness of the state's cultural life," said Governor William F. Weld, Co-Chair of the Arts, Sciences and Humanities Legislative Leadership Committee supporting the event.

Senate President Thomas F. Birmingham and House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran have joined Governor Weld in co-chairing the Committee which has nearly 100% participation of all Massachusetts State Senators and Representatives.

The presentation and reception will be held from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 per person. All proceeds support the event. For information or tickets, call the MCC at 800-232-0960/TTY 617-338-9153. Charge tickets at 617-824-8000.

The awards are co-sponsored by the MCC, the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities (MAASH), and BankBoston.

The award objects are "totem paintings," created by Massachusetts artist Deborah Lisa Putnoi, a

1995 recipient of a Visual Arts Fellowship from the New England Foundation for the Arts.



M. Humphries

Cultural Organization

Newton Television Foundation (Newton) Producer and distributor of over 100 high quality documentaries by independent MA filmmakers.



M. Humphries

Education

Very Special Arts Massachusetts (Boston) Provider of model arts in education programs enabling students of all abilities to achieve their potential.



M. Miller

Community

Hudson Area Arts Alliance (Hudson) Catalyst for broadening cultural opportunity and accessibility in Hudson and surrounding communities.



J. Fair

Artist

Yo-Yo Ma (Cambridge) Performer and recording artist, master teacher, and supporter of local cultural groups.



M. Romanos

Artist

Semenya McCord (New Bedford) Jazz singer, music historian, and teacher of the history and development of African American music.



J. Robson

Humanist

Joseph D. Thomas (New Bedford) Preserver of south-eastern MA's folk history and culture through Spinner Publications.



S. Acquaviva

Interpretive Scientist

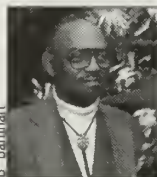
Charles E. Roth (Littleton) Innovative environmental educator with numerous organizations and author of natural history publications.



H. Raub

Organizational Leadership

Edmund Barry Gaither (Roxbury) Director/Curator, Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists. Leader in bringing African American art to the cultural forefront.



B. Barnhart

Organizational Leadership

Frederick C. Tillis (Amherst) Director, Fine Arts Center at UMass/Amherst. Creator of an institution fostering the arts in the Pioneer Valley.



Patron

Marge Champion (Stockbridge) Donor of financial support, time, and vision to cultural organizations and young artists.



BankBoston. Premier Sponsor of the 1997 Commonwealth Awards

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Summer 1997
Vol.3, No.1

MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Looking Back at a Productive Year, page 2

MCFP First Loans Top \$1 Million

7 Facilities Awarded Low-Interest Loans, page 3

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Elder Initiative Announced

New Outreach Opportunity for Artists, page 7

1997 Artist Grants Fellows

Recipients Announced, page 8

State Increases MCC Budget, NEA Battles Defunding

The Massachusetts Cultural Council's state appropriation will increase by \$545,000 to \$14.7 million in fiscal year 1998. The increase was recommended as part of the 1998 state budget that was released by the legislature on June 30 and signed by then Governor Weld on July 10. The increase was the MCC's fifth in six years, following a year of level funding in 1997. The state's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

"The budget is a real vote of confidence," said Peter Nessen, MCC chairman. "We're very grateful to the leadership in the House and Senate, and to William Weld for his support over the past six years."

Continued on P.3*

Culture Drives Economic Development 12 Projects Funded By New State Economic Development Initiative

The Massachusetts Cultural Council's new Cultural Economic Development (CED) Program completed its first year of funding, awarding more than \$300,000 to 12 projects across the state. CED is providing one- and two-year grants of up to \$50,000 for partnerships that will make a significant cultural and economic impact on several communities. Projects receiving support will use culture as a basis for promoting tourism, economic development planning, new businesses and skills training, or downtown revitalization.

"These projects are exciting because they use existing cultural assets in entrepreneurial ways to create new economic wealth for their communities," Governor Paul Cellucci said. "The connection between culture and economic development draws people from all segments of a community to work together."

CED builds on the strength of Massachusetts's extensive cultural resources. A 1996 study of not-for-profit cultural organizations reports a total economic impact of \$2.56 billion, including 45,368 jobs in cultural organizations.

"It is vital that we continue to invest in cultural programs," said Governor Cellucci. "A strong cultural community is one of our state's greatest assets."

CED projects reflect the range of Massachusetts's cultural resources and communities. One partnership will combine high technology arts and industry to create a major biennial cyberarts festival. The city of Brockton is putting an artist at the forefront of its downtown revitalization efforts by creating a strategic plan that links its cultural organizations. Franklin County's cultural organizations and local businesses have launched a cooperative marketing initiative to increase Pioneer Valley tourism. A multicultural artisan's center will create jobs and training for low-income, immigrant women in Dorchester. [Grant list on page 6.]

Partnerships are the Keystone

CED requires a partnership among at least three cultural and non-cultural organizations. Projects showcase unusually diverse collaborations of cultural organizations, local arts agencies, chambers of commerce, community development corporations, municipal agencies, regional tourist councils, and local businesses.

"By connecting organizations with different perspectives, skills, and resources, these partnerships extend the projects' impact far beyond the capability of any individual partner organization," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director.

In describing the collaborative effort behind the Holyoke Art and Agriculture Project, project manager Daniel Ross said, "Community development efforts tend to be initiated either on a grand scale by developers and city officials with only token participation by residents, or by

Continued on P.6*

MCCLetter

As we close out fiscal year 1997, we can all look back on a number of accomplishments and look forward to the opportunities ahead. I am continually struck by the abundance of quality work being done by our cultural community. The eight pages of this newsletter glimpse the breadth of this work, as well as highlight the vital role that public funding plays in the lives of individuals, organizations, schools, and communities.

This year alone, so much growth has taken place with our programs and services. The new Organizational Support Program completed its first full year. Our ongoing effort to develop resources for local cultural councils was greatly enhanced by the addition of three field representatives. We also launched three initiatives: the Education Partnership Initiative was established with the awarding of grants to collaborations in 17 communities; the Cultural Economic Development Program is supporting partnerships in 12 communities; and Science in the Community is underway in 12 communities. YouthReach doubled its impact by expanding to 28 communities. The 1997 Commonwealth Awards last spring provided an opportunity to publicly celebrate the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in Massachusetts. Communicating with our constituents has improved through the publication of three different audience-specific newsletters. Our staff is now equipped with email. The list goes on and on.

We look forward to talking with you about the MCC's current activities and future possibilities at public forums that will take place this fall. Your valued input will initiate a process to create a new strategic plan for the agency and help us to provide you with better service. See you in September.

May Kelly
Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Lisa Safier. Editor/Writer: Lisa Safier. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen. Writers: Charlie McDermott and Beate Klein Becker.

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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1998 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Intent: Feb 3, 1998

Final Proposal: Mar 3, 1998

Cultural Economic Development TBA

YouthReach

Preliminary Proposal: Feb 9, 1998

Full Proposal: Apr 29, 1998

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project Oct 1, 1997 (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Touring Program

Sept 1, 1997 Dec 1, 1997 Mar 2, 1998

Jun 1, 1998 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review TBA

ADA Mini-Grants

Intent: Jan 1998 Final Proposal: Mar 1998
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Professional Development

Last day of each month

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Program

Nov 3, 1997 Apr 1, 1998

Education Partnership

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec 2, 1997

Planning Proposal: Mar 16, 1998

Event & Residency Roster Review

Jan 15, 1998

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY98 Disciplines: Choreography, Fiction, and Poetry
Jan 23, 1998

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY98 Disciplines: Painting and Works on Paper
Feb 2, 1998 (617-951-0010)

Media Fellowships

TBA

COMMUNITIES

LCC Grants

Oct 15, 1997

LCC Reporting Deadline

Dec 15, 1997

LCC Matching Incentive

TBA

Continued from P.1*

MCC Budget Increased, NEA Battles Defunding

"We're fortunate to live in a state that recognizes the importance of its cultural resources," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director. "The budget will allow us to maintain all of our core programs for cultural organizations, schools, local cultural councils, and artists, and to continue new initiatives. This year we received applications from 121 new organizations for our Organizational Support Program alone."

At the beginning of the FY98 state budget process, the Governor recommended \$15.2 million for the MCC. The House and Senate then released their own budget proposals: \$14.2 million was proposed by the House, \$14.7 million by the Senate. The Senate's figure prevailed in Conference Committee, and it was then approved by Weld.

The Senate recommendation was accompanied by language about the MCC: "We recommend an additional \$500,000 for the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which recognizes that government can help build our community and economy through the integration of the arts, humanities, and sciences in the everyday lives of school children, their parents, and neighbors. Skillful blending of tax dollars, private donations, and the hard work of volunteers demonstrates that modest awards of public funding can be leveraged to accomplish many important community goals."

With the state budget now complete, the MCC is finalizing its own administrative and program budgets for fiscal year 1998. These will provide the basis for grant recommendations in a number of different grant programs. Award notifications and contracts for most of these programs will be mailed in September.

"Several of our priority initiatives are multi-year grant programs—such as YouthReach, the Education Partnership Initiative, and the Cultural Economic Development Program," said Kelley. "We're trying to support longer-term efforts to build our communities and to improve our schools. In the coming years, we'd like to extend those models to more communities, but we need more money to make that possible."

NEA Budget Debates Continue

The good news of the MCC budget increase was juxtaposed against some bad news from Washington, where next year's budget for the National Endowment for the Arts is being debated. On the same day that Weld signed the 1998 state budget, the House of Representatives recommended (by a one-vote margin) to de-fund the NEA. The vote was 217-216; all ten Massachusetts representatives voted against the measure.

The federal budget process now moves to the Senate, which is substantially more supportive of the Endowment. Before the August recess, the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended \$100.5 million for the NEA. The process resumes in September. President Clinton has promised to veto any legislation eliminating NEA funding. ■

Free Resource Guide Available

The MCC has recently published a resource guide which lists contact information for service and discipline specific organizations in and beyond Massachusetts. To obtain a free copy, call the MCC at 800-232-0960/TTY 617-338-9153 or email mcc@art.state.ma.us.

MCFP Tops \$1M in Low-Cost Loans

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project (MCFP) has passed the million dollar mark in low-cost lending. MCFP was launched in 1995 as a technical assistance and low-cost loan provider for not-for-profit cultural organizations. Loans have been made to:

Arlington Center for the Arts—\$15,000 loan will help the Center expand and renovate affordable studio space and provide more gallery and classroom space to meet the community's growing needs.

Boston Center for the Arts—\$200,000 loan will enable phase one completion of renovation to the BCA's Cyclorama, a unique and historic 127-foot glass dome.

Cape Cod Repertory Theatre—\$50,000 loan will help convert an important historic Brewster building into a 140-seat indoor theater. This project will expand the company's season and allow indoor performances for the first time.

Green Street Studios—\$12,500 loan will purchase a custom-made seating system for its studio, which will allow cheaper rents and quicker set-up times.

Hancock Shaker Village—\$450,000 loan enabled this Pittsfield museum to launch the first stage of a long-term plan to enlarge the museum and improve its use of space. It will also allow them to complete construction on its entrance and parking areas in time for the peak summer season.

Old Sturbridge Village—\$100,000 loan will repair a failing roof on their Education Center, reducing annual maintenance and repair costs.

The Wenham Museum—\$200,000 loan will help this historical museum better serve the North Shore by expanding its exhibition halls and improving educational programs, storage, and displays.

For more information, call the MCFP at 617-727-8447.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Organizations

From the end of May through early July the Organizations Department held panels to review this year's applicants to the **Organizational Support Program**. The panel review process is the department's busiest time of year. In 10 weeks 364 organizations were evaluated by 16 panels. Panel recommendations will be brought before the board at the end of August and applicants will be notified about their status and allocations in early September.

Second-year funding was approved in July for partnerships supported through **YouthReach**. YouthReach promotes the integration of substantive arts opportunities into communities' responses to their young people in need. Grants totaled \$587,500 for 28 collaborations. Applications will be available this fall for the funding cycle that begins in July 1998. See *MCCDeadlines* on page 2. For more information, contact H. Mark Smith at 800-232-0960 x253 or hmark@art.state.ma.us.

Science in the Community second year grant recipients will be announced in September. Modeled on YouthReach, this program supports science education activities for at-risk youth through partnerships between science museums and community organizations.

The **Professional Development Program** is now in its second year. This program provides funds to help individuals attend conferences, workshops, master classes, and other educational opportunities. From July 1996 through May 1997, grants covering fees and travel expenses were distributed to 238 individual artists and staff members of cultural organizations. A total of \$86,965 was allocated. As funding

for individuals becomes more difficult to obtain, this program demonstrates how even small grants can have a significant impact on the development of individual artists and other cultural workers.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

Grants were approved in July for the **Education Partnership Initiative**, now entering its second year. Demand is growing steadily for this program that supports partnerships of cultural organizations, school districts, and other community groups to promote long-term systemic change in education. We are pleased to fund five new Implementation Grants, four second year Implementation Grants, and six new Planning Grants. Two of last year's Planning Grant recipients also received extensions to continue their efforts.

We received 82 applications for artists to work in schools in the upcoming year through the **Event & Residency Program**. Schools recommended to receive funding were notified in June. Final grant amounts will be announced in August, once the fiscal year 1998 budget is approved.

Thirty-eight artists/ensembles were added to the roster for the Event & Residency Program in the categories of creative writing, dance, music, and storytelling. A new edition of the **Cultural Resources Directory** will be distributed to schools in September. It will include contact information for the new artists as well as updated information on current roster artists.

InsideOut

The **Massachusetts Board of Education** continues to discuss and refine the History/Social Science framework. At their April meeting, a new committee was appointed to prepare a revised draft. This committee includes three board members and three teachers. In June, the **Massachusetts Board of Education** voted to approve the latest draft of the History/Social Science framework. It includes four major areas: history (United States and world), geography, economics, and civics and government. During the summer, the framework will go through additional editorial revisions and will be presented for a final vote by the board in August. Copies of this framework as well as those for other subjects are available on-line via the Department of Education's web site at <http://info.doe.mass.edu>.



Robert Ayres
Program Officer

Artists

On September 25-28, **New England Artist Trust Congress IV** will convene in Newport, New Hampshire. This conference for professional artists, arts leaders, and arts educators will combine with a multidisciplinary festival designed to celebrate the work of the region's artists. Participants can engage both national arts leaders and regional colleagues through a variety of presentations, panels, workshops, and plenary sessions, as well as have the chance to perform or exhibit



*Lisa Hergenrother
Program Officer*

Communities

artwork. Call Lori Dresser, Congress Coordinator, at 603-863-8016 for more information.

The New England Artist Trust was founded five years ago as a project of the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). Last year, the Trust became a separate, artist-run organization dedicated to supporting artists and fostering better communication among artists.

A high volume of applications was received in every discipline reviewed in the **1997 Artist Grants Program**. Thank you to each artist who took the time to apply. It's disappointing not to be able to fund so many of the worthy artists who participated in this highly competitive review. Results are on page 8. Applications will be accepted this year in: Choreography, Fiction, Media, Painting, Poetry, and Works-on-Paper. Please contact us if you don't receive an application by mid-December.

A revised edition of the **Massachusetts Touring Roster**, listing 214 performers, will be circulated this fall. The Roster helps not-for-profit presenters locate and book Massachusetts performers. Presenters hiring artists from the Roster may be eligible for a grant through the New England States Touring Program or the Massachusetts Touring Program, both administered by NEFA (617-951-0010).

On a personal note, I will be leaving the MCC at the end of August to pursue a graduate degree in Theater at Northwestern University. It has been my pleasure to work with and for Massachusetts artists. My replacement should be on staff in September.

The first **LCC Matching Incentive Program** deadline was July 15, and initial results indicate 35 local cultural councils have raised over \$170,000, qualifying them for additional awards to be included in their regranting cycles.

The goal of this new program is to encourage broader support for cultural activities at the local level. LCCs that raise funds from their municipalities and/or private funders qualify for matching incentive funds.

For a third year the MCC, in conjunction with Arts Extension Service, has held **spring regional gatherings**. Workshops on fundraising, publicity, and grants evaluation were held along with orientation for new members.

This year at the regional gatherings, 14 LCCs were recognized for significant achievements: Acton-Boxborough, Bellingham, Brookfield, Brookline, Dedham, Falmouth, Georgetown, New Marlborough, Orange, Pepperell, Plainfield, Southampton, Swansea, and Wellesley. Acknowledging the good work of LCCs in various ways is intended to encourage folks in the field to share their expertise with each other. It is also the MCC's way of saying "thank you" for a job well done. We invite LCCs to share their success stories with us so we can relay them to the network of LCCs. More detailed information about these councils and their specific accomplishments are being featured in **Local Roots**, the newsletter for LCCs.



*Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer*

Systems

Our Contracts Department has been busy reviewing Fiscal Year 1997 final reports and, at the same time, gearing up for our Fiscal Year 1998 contract mailings. The deadline for submitting your FY97 final report was July 31, 1997. Thanks to all of you who met this deadline—we genuinely appreciate your efforts. If you haven't submitted your FY97 final report, please call Mary McCarthy, our Contracts Specialist, ASAP to discuss the reason for the delay. **Please note that the release of your FY98 award package is dependent on the approval of your FY97 final report. Organizations with delinquent or disapproved final reports will not receive their FY98 award packages until FY97 reporting is brought into compliance.**

FY98 award packages are scheduled to be mailed shortly after our August 26 board meeting. Grantees can expect to receive award packages by mid-September. There are no significant changes to our award package from last year. We have, however, added some new instruction sheets that we hope will easily guide you through our contracting requirements.

If you have any questions about your final report or your award package, please call Mary McCarthy at 617-727-3668 x332, 800-232-0960 x332, or TTY 617-338-9153. Thank you.

Cultural Development Partnerships Benefit Communities

grassroots groups with few resources. Arts groups exist at the fringes of these efforts. Our project brings all of these people together to tackle some of the city's toughest problems by building on our own culture and resources."

Combining the right partners proved to be key to addressing the CED Program's economic development requirement. The Heirloom Tomato Pilot Project in the Berkshires began as a partnership among cultural and agricultural organizations committed to cultivating and preserving vanishing plant species, but then expanded to include a specialty foods distributor and a local resort.

By marketing the produce to consumers and restaurants, these businesses will develop culinary demand and an economic market for this heritage product, thereby supporting the original mission of the cultural partners.

A Portfolio of Investments

The 12 projects were selected from 75 proposals. Applications were evaluated on the nature and scope of the project's anticipated cultural, economic, and community impact; the quality of the partnership; and the project's potential to serve as a replicable model for other communities.

"The funded projects made it through a rigorous review process and make a terrific

portfolio of cultural investments," said Beate Klein Becker, CED program manager. Previously Becker managed socially responsible investment funds at U.S. Trust Company and created a loan guarantee pool to support community development in South Africa.

"Part of these CED projects' effectiveness can be measured by conventional economic indicators such as visitor expenditures and employment levels. Also important will be the increased civic awareness and pride in the communities' cultural wealth," she said.

Fiscal year 1998 guidelines for CED will be available this fall. ■

1997 Cultural Economic Development Grant Recipients

An Artist's View of a Strategic Plan: Cultural and Historical Resources, Brockton

Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, Brockton Community Corp., Brockton Fights Back, Brockton Historical Society, Brockton Public Library, Fuller Museum of Art

To develop an urban regeneration plan linking cultural organizations with municipal sites, using the natural path created by the Salisbury River.

The Boston Cyberarts Festival, Jamaica Plain

VisionSpace, Inc., DeCordova & Dana Museum & Sculpture Park, Emerson College, Mass. Interactive Media Council

To develop a biennial festival on digital art that will include exhibitions, lecture/demonstrations, and performances.

Codman Square Multicultural Artisans Center, Dorchester

Codman Square Main Street, Aid to Artisans, Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corp.

To create a multicultural artisans center that will provide training, product design, marketing, and business assistance to local artisans.

Cultural Marketing Partnership, Lowell

Lowell Office of Cultural Affairs, Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce, Greater Merrimack Valley Convention Center, Lowell Festival Fndn., Lowell Historic Board, Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell Plan

To analyze and coordinate the marketing efforts of Lowell's cultural resources, as well as integrating Lowell's newer immigrants into cultural development plans.

Culture, Arts, and Community Development in Roxbury: A Strategic Vision and Partnership, Roxbury

Madison Park Development Corporation, Mass. College of Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Natl. Center of Afro-American Artists, Northeastern Univ.

To develop a comprehensive strategic plan to utilize the resources of the area's cultural and educational institutions as an economic development catalyst for Roxbury.

Folk Festival to Foster Economic Development, Boston

WUMB-FM Radio, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston Scottish Fiddle Club, Folk Arts Network, Museum of Our National Heritage, Robin Blecher Celtic Arts, World Music

To produce a festival encompassing two months of events dedicated to preservation and development of folk music and multicultural folk arts in Mass.

Heirloom Tomato Field Project - 1997 Pilot, Great Barrington

Eastern Native Seed Conservancy, The Bidwell House, Equinox Farm, Specialty Foods Boston, Wheatleigh Resort & Inn

To promote and preserve the heritage of Massachusetts's vanishing historical food plants by creating a new niche market for the use and sale of tomatoes distinctive to the Commonwealth.

Heritage Cape Cod, Dennis

Dennis Historical Society, Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, Cape Cod Commission, Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank, Sandwich Historical Society
To promote off-season cultural tourism in the 15 towns of Cape Cod by coordinating events involving 110 cultural organizations.

Holyoke Art and Agriculture Project, Holyoke

Nuestras Raices, Inc., Greater Holyoke Fndn., El Arco Iris of Nueva Esperanza

To revitalize South Holyoke by creating a pedestrian arts walkway along a canal. The walkway will physically link a number of arts organizations with the new Agricultural Center and downtown business district.

REACH Fitchburg (Recreation, Education, Arts, Culture, History), Fitchburg

Fitchburg State College Fndn., Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg by Design, Fitchburg Historical Society, Fitchburg Industrial Development Commission

To promote cultural tourism and civic pride by producing and distributing a series of walking/driving guides featuring area cultural resources.

Tour-Net, Greenfield

Arts Council of Franklin County, Business Fund for the Arts, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Assn.

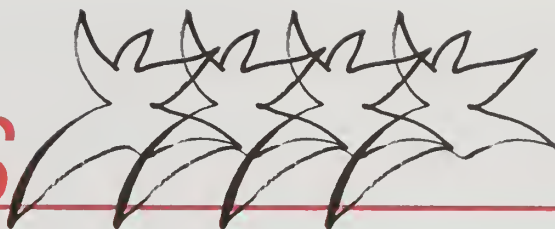
To promote year-round cultural tourism through a cooperative marketing, advertising, and training initiative involving cultural organizations and businesses.

Wampanoag Cultural Tourism and Development Project, Gay Head

Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce, Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Tribal Council, Plimoth Plantation

To create a cultural tourism plan that will complement a planned Aquinnah Cultural Center, enabling visitors to frequent Wampanoag cultural attractions and tribal businesses.

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCConnections. Due to space limitations, listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

The Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project offers the following: **Getting Ready for a Facilities Project: What Small Organizations Need to Know** is a half-day seminar designed specifically for smaller organizations with annual revenues under \$250,000. Sept. 22 on Cape Cod. \$50. **The Advanced Planning Seminar** is a two-day interactive experience which utilizes a case study to discuss issues related to all aspects of facility planning, with an emphasis on financial planning. Designed for the Chief Executive and key Board Member of the organization. Oct. 20-21 in Western Mass. \$150 per organization (2 attendees). Contact: Holly Heath at 617-727-8447.

New England Artists Trust Congress IV, Sept. 25-28 in Newport, NH, is a working conference for professional artists, arts leaders, and arts educators which showcases community-based arts projects and a multi-arts festival. Contact: Lori Dresser at 603-863-8016.

51st National Preservation Conference offers practical advice, innovative solutions, and examples from the country's most successful historic preservation programs. Oct. 14-19 in Santa Fe, NM. Contact: National Trust for Historic Preservation at 800-944-6847.

Call for Entries

Emerging Artists 1998 is accepting slides for its seventh annual group exhibition to be held Feb 1998. Oct. 30 deadline. Contact: Slowinski Gallery, Emerging Artists Exhibit, 215 Mulberry, NY, NY 10012.

The Loft Production Company seeks original scripts of unproduced and unpublished full-length plays, comedies, dramas, musicals, and alternative theater pieces for production consideration. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Mr. Kelly Smith, Artistic Director, The Loft Production Co., 1441 E. Fletcher Ave., Suite 413, Tampa, FL 33612.

Funding

National Endowment for the Humanities's summer stipends support two months of full-time work on projects that will make a significant contribution to the humanities. \$4,000. Oct. 1 deadline. Contact: 202-606-8551; stipends@neh.fed.us

The Japan/U.S. Presenter Travel Fund provides funds for U.S. not-for-profit performing arts presenters to see Japanese performing artists touring in the U.S. Contact: Gail Milton at 816-421-1388 or Julianna Lovell at 617-951-0010.

The American Antiquarian Society offers fellowships for historic research by artists, writers, and filmmakers designed to enhance the way history is communicated to the American people. Oct. 6 deadline. Contact: John B. Hench at 508-752-5813.

The Culpepper Foundation supports partnerships among music and art organizations and public schools. \$7 million granted annually nationwide. No deadline. Contact: Culpepper Foundation, 695 E. Main St., #300, Stamford, CT 06901; 203-975-1240.

Residencies

The Buffalo National River residency is open to all visual and performing artists, writers, and composers. Spring and fall residencies available. Up to three weeks of housing provided. Contact: Doug Wilson,

Artist-in-Residence Program, Buffalo National River, PO Box 1173, Harrison, AR 72602; 501-741-5443 x130.

Montana Artists Refuge, an artist-run residency program in Basin, MT, is accepting applications from artists of all disciplines for Fall 1997-Fall 1998. 3 mo.-1 yr. Ongoing deadline. Send SASE: Montana Artists Refuge, Box 8, Basin, MT 59631; 406-225-3525.

Resources

Fairs and Festivals 1997 lists contacts for high end craft, mail, and trade shows. Listings include attendance and show sales figures. \$14.25 + \$4.25 s/h. Contact: Arts Extension Service, Division of Continuing Education, UMASS, Amherst, MA 01003; 413-545-2360.

Arts Information Update is a free newsletter from Resources for Artists with Disabilities (RAD) listing exhibitions, grants, reviews, publications, and more. Contact: RAD, 77 Seventh Ave., Pent House H, NY, NY 10011-6645; 212-691-5490.

New England Conservatory's Career Services Center offers a monthly job bulletin for musicians featuring over 150 listings each month, and information on competitions, festivals, grants, and conferences. \$28 per year. Contact: 617-262-1120 x230.

A complimentary **American Federation of Arts (AFA) Exhibitions Program 1997**, a color illustrated resource describing 52 AFA exhibitions, is available upon request to professional museum staff. Contact: Museum Services 800-AFA-0270 x39.

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts is a statewide organization that maintains a Speakers Bureau and a panel of over 160 attorneys who help with arts-related legal assistance on a pro-bono or reduced fee basis. Contact: 800-864-0476.

1997 Artist Grants Fellows Named

With the awarding of the 1997 Artist Grants, the Massachusetts Cultural Council continues to celebrate and support the exceptional work of artists across the state. Artist Grants recipients receive \$7,500 awards, while finalists receive \$1,000 each.

"This award will open up endless numbers of avenues to me as I pursue my compositional career," said Erika O'Leary, Artist Grant Finalist in Music Composition. "This grant holds a very specific and practical role in the support of my professional career."

CRAFTS*

(77 applications)

Recipients

Stephen Daniell, *Easthampton*
Silas Kopf, *Northampton*
Kristina Madsen, *Southampton*
Marilyn Pappas, *Belmont*
Mark Sutherland, *Concord*

Finalists

Judith Inglese, *Amherst*
Michael F. James,
Somerset Village
Mark Shapiro, *Worthington*

MEDIA**

(66 applications)

Recipients

Nneka Bennett, *Roxbury*
Ellie Lee, *Newton*
Ross McElwee, *Brookline*
Joshua Seftel, *Arlington*

Finalists

Flora Cohen, *Florence*
Dave Scott Johnson,
Amesbury
Christine Kraft, *Cambridge*
Mark Lipman, *Medford*
Richard Moos, *Jamaica Plain*
Todd Verow, *Boston*

MUSIC

COMPOSITION***

(145 applications)

Recipients

Dana Brayton, *Jamaica Plain*
Glenn Dickson, *Medford*
Tim Geller, *South Dartmouth*
David B. Harris, *Arlington*

Finalists

David William Clark, *Andover*
Gregory Fritze, *Sharon*
Michael Gandolfi, *Cambridge*
Bruce Gertz Group, *Melrose*
Edward Ross Moyer,
Cambridge
Erika O'Leary, *Hull*
Frederick T. Pease, *Natick*
George Russell, *Jamaica Plain*
Martin Max Schreiner,
Sudbury
Sidney Smith, *Boston*
Michael J. Wartofsky,
Jamaica Plain
Yang Yong, *Randolph*

PLAYWRIGHTING/ NEW THEATER WORKS***

(180 applications)

Recipients

Laura Harrington, *Gloucester*
Douglas Michilinda, *Amherst*
Ben Scranton, *Springfield*

Finalists

Erika Batdorf, *Boston*
William Donnelly, *Taunton*
David Valdes Greenwood,
Somerville
John Hadden, *Lenox*
Steve Lawson, *Williamstown*
Celeste Miller, *Gloucester*
John A. Minigan, *Framingham*
Kevin E. Rice, *Wellfleet*
Sinan H. Unel, *Provincetown*

PHOTOGRAPHY*

(165 applications)

Recipients

Jim Dow, *Belmont*
Marcus Halevi, *Somerville*
Robert ParkeHarrison,
Worcester
Allan MacIntyre, *Medford*
Kim Mimnaugh, *Gloucester*
Nancy P. Roberts, *Carlisle*
Marian Roth, *Provincetown*

Finalists

Stephen Golding, *Newtonville*
Barbara Hadden, *Jamaica Plain*
Denise Marcotte, *Cambridge*

SCULPTURE*

(135 applications)

Recipients

Cynthia J. Atwood,
Great Barrington
Alan Colby, *Wollaston*
Rosalyn Driscoll, *Haydenville*
Cameron Shaw, *Lakeville*
Marilu Swett, *Jamaica Plain*

Finalists

Breon Nina Dunigan, *Truro*
Carol Keller, *Boston*
Wellington Reiter, *Newton*

* Administered by



NEW ENGLAND
foundation for the
arts

using MCC funds.

** Administered by Boston
Film/Video Foundation using
MCC funds.

*** Administered by the MCC.

Elder Outreach Initiative Offers Artist Training

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) announces the launch this September of the Elder Initiative, a program designed to serve artists, care providers, and elders. In the Elder Initiative's first phase, the MCC is working in cooperation with the Massachusetts Extended Care Federation and the Association of Massachusetts Homes and Services for the Aging, with advice from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

In recognition of the state's growing over-65 population, the MCC is offering eight one-week community-based workshops for artists and care providers. They will be led by Peter DiMuro, a Boston choreographer, and an artist from Liz Lerman's Dance Exchange, an intergenerational dance company specializing in community interactive art. Theory and hands-on training will be provided in settings such as nursing homes and senior citizen and adult care facilities. Participants will work with residents and each other in activities involving movement, oral histories, music, and other disciplines. Training will take place from late September to January in Pittsfield, Holyoke, Worcester, New Bedford/Fall River, Boston, Lynn, and Lawrence.

Artists interested in attending should contact the MCC at 800-232-0960 x401. Elder artists are encouraged to join these sessions. The fee is \$150 per person and Professional Development grants are available. Call 800-232-0960 x329 for an application.

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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Vol. 3, No. 2

MCCconnections

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Inside

MCCLetter

MA Cultural Community on Track, page 2

New Faces at the MCC

Staff Changes Bring New Strengths, page 6

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Cultural Facilities Legislation Pending

Senate Bill Could Provide New Money, page 8

Elder Initiative Reaches Out

Update on Artist Training Seminars, page 8

MCC Adopts FY98 Budget, Grants \$12 Million

The Massachusetts Cultural Council's state appropriation increased from \$14.2 million to \$14.7 million in fiscal year 1998. Grants of almost \$12 million have already been approved to hundreds of cultural organizations, schools, and local cultural councils statewide.

"It's an honor to announce these awards," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director.

"Massachusetts is home to many outstanding cultural organizations, working artists, and a grassroots network of local cultural councils serving every corner of the state. These grants are investments in our communities, our schools, and our quality of life."

"We're very grateful to the Governor and Legislature. It's their support that makes this work possible," she said.

The MCC is Massachusetts' largest funder of public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

*Continued on P.3 **

Economic Impact Results Announced

Study Finds \$2.56 Billion Impact of MA Not-for-Profit Cultural Industry

What would happen if every cultural organization in the Commonwealth, all 3,029 of them, disappeared overnight? In the blink of an eye, no more museums, music schools, or concert halls; no more nature centers, theaters, or dance troupes?

What would happen to the hotels, restaurants, tour bus companies, and others that depend on audiences for their livelihoods? And what about the businesses and workers who choose to locate in Massachusetts, in large part because of our cultural resources?

We may never be able to quantify just how much cultural organizations improve the quality of life in Massachusetts, but we can quantify their economic impact. According to a new report commissioned by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the New England Foundation for the Arts:

- ▶ The not-for-profit cultural industry in Massachusetts had a total economic impact of \$2.56 billion in 1996. Direct spending by cultural organizations equaled \$1.44 billion; indirect spending equaled \$1.12 billion.
- ▶ Cultural organizations provided 45,368 jobs (13,909 full-time).
- ▶ Cultural organizations collected or paid \$59 million in federal income and social security taxes, and \$17 million in state income and sales taxes.
- ▶ More than 45 million people attended cultural events over the course of the year—more than the attendance at professional sports events in the state.
- ▶ Just under 30 percent of total admissions were non-state residents—underscoring the enormous impact of cultural tourism in the state.
- ▶ Volunteerism continues to prove vital to cultural organizations—98,350 volunteers contributed 2.1 million unpaid hours of assistance.

The study was conducted by Dr. Gregory Wassall, Professor of Economics at Northeastern University, who also oversaw similar studies in 1978 and 1988. The latest study shows marked growth in all areas—even though it did not include an estimate of related audience spending (money spent by people attending a cultural event on restaurants, parking, or other services).

Based on the attendance figures in the new report, and on previous studies of audience spending patterns, an estimated \$1 billion was generated by audience spending in 1996. [This estimated \$1 billion was not calculated as part of the \$2.56 total economic impact in the new study.]

*Continued on P.6 **

You may have read about "American Canvas", a report issued by the National Endowment for the Arts. The report is the culmination of public meetings that the NEA convened around the country to explore how the arts can be integrated into communities. No meeting was held in New England, however. The process resulted in ten calls to action. Each is based on the premise that we must make the arts more a part of the community at every level: from a community development plan to education frameworks, from providing access for all citizens to expanding the definition of the arts to include the array of cultural activities Americans enjoy.

The report recommends that everyone support the vital role of government in ensuring that the arts play an increasing part in the lives of educating citizens. I am happy to report that all of us in Massachusetts are deeply involved in these efforts. Through our 336 local cultural councils and our programs for education, organizations, and artists, we have begun to answer the ten calls. But there is much work still ahead of us as we recognize that persistence is an essential ingredient to making change. A copy of "American Canvas" is in our library should you wish to look at it.

We just completed five public forums across the state which were designed for you to meet with MCC staff and ask questions or voice concerns. An average of 30 people attended per forum, representing local cultural councils, schools, organizations, and artists. Comments were quite positive. For those who did not make it to the public forums, we hope you will call the program coordinator in your discipline about any questions or issues on your mind.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Lisa Safier. Editor/Writer: Lisa Safier. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen. Writers: Charlie McDermott and Charles Coe.

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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1998 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ORGANIZATIONS

Organizational Support

Intent: Feb 3, 1998

Final Proposal: Mar 3, 1998

YouthReach

Feb 9, 1998

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

ADA Mini-Grants

Intent: Jan 1998

Final Proposal: Mar 1998 (617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Professional Development

The 15th of Each Month

EDUCATION

Event & Residency Program

Nov 3, 1997 Apr 1, 1998

Education Partnership

Implementation Pre-Proposals: Dec 2, 1997
Planning and Full implementation Proposals:
Mar 16, 1998

Event & Residency Roster Review

Jan 15, 1998

ARTISTS

Artist Grants

FY98 Disciplines: Choreography, Fiction, and Poetry Jan 23, 1998

Visual Arts Fellowships

FY98 Disciplines: Painting and Works on Paper Feb 2, 1998 (617-951-0010)

Media Fellowships

TBA

Massachusetts Touring Program

Dec 1, 1997 Jan 2, 1998 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

TBA

COMMUNITIES

LCC Grants

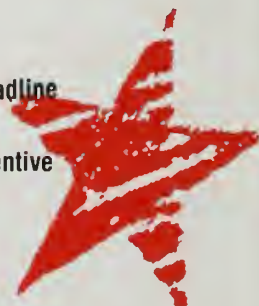
Oct 15, 1997

LCC Reporting Deadline

Dec 15, 1997

LCC Matching Incentive

TBA



InsideView

Continued from P.1 *

MCC Approves \$12 Million in Grants

The budget for this year includes level funding or modest increases for most of the MCC's grant programs and services. In July and August, grants were approved in the following programs:

Organizational Support: \$6.2 million.

MCC's largest program, Organizational Support offers grants for cultural organizations with track records of excellence and community service. 461 organizations of all sizes and disciplines received Organizational Support this year—up from 417 last year. To accommodate the increase, the program's budget is up nearly \$200,000 from last year.

Local Cultural Councils: \$3.73 million.

336 local cultural councils (LCCs) in Massachusetts serve every city and town in the state. MCC funds are allocated to each community on the basis of a local aid formula. LCCs re-grant these funds to projects in their own communities, based on their own local priorities. Over 7,000 grants will be made at the local level this year.

LCC Matching Incentive Program:

\$135,000. This new program offers matching grants to LCCs that raise funds from their municipalities or the private sector. 35 LCCs received grants this year by raising more than \$400,000 in local matches.

YouthReach: \$587,000. 28 communities now participate in the YouthReach program, which uses the arts to help young people at risk. Grants are made to partnerships of cultural and community organizations and artists. Activities take place after school, during the summer, or in institutional settings to provide constructive opportunities in times and places where kids are most susceptible to negative influences. Now in its fifth year, YouthReach is increasingly

recognized as a model, demonstrating the power of the arts to transform young people's lives.

Science in the Community: \$252,000. 12 communities are participating in the second year of the Science in the Community program. Modeled after YouthReach, it provides out-of-school science activities for youth in underserved communities.

Education Partnership Initiative:

\$527,000. One of the major initiatives of the MCC's strategic plan, the Education Partnership Initiative was launched in 1997. It supports long-term collaborations between cultural organizations and schools in order to integrate the arts, sciences, and humanities into local school reform efforts. 17 communities are participating in the program: 9 have received 3-year Implementation Grants, 8 have 1-year Planning Grants.

ADA Mini-Grants: \$70,000. The ADA Mini-Grant program is a partnership between Very Special Arts Massachusetts, the MCC, and now, The Heinz Foundation. Established in 1993, the program supports efforts by cultural organizations to make their programs and services accessible to people with disabilities—beyond the basic physical access requirements of the ADA.

Elder Initiative: \$60,000. Seniors are the fastest-growing segment of the state's population. The Elder Initiative, a new program, provides training for artists and elder care service providers on how to use the arts in their work with seniors.

Other fiscal year 1998 grants will be made over the months to come, through programs like Cultural Economic Development, Event & Residency, Artist Grants, and Professional Development. See page 2 for deadlines. ■

MCC Receives NEA Grants

In fiscal year 1998 the MCC will receive \$473,000 from the NEA. These funds are composed of the state block grant and grants to the MCC's Event & Residency and YouthReach programs.

The NEA's fiscal year 1998 budget is \$98.5 million.

MCC Holds Public Forums

Public forums were held by the MCC during October and November in Springfield, Worcester, Boston, New Bedford, and Pittsfield to provide more information about the agency's activities this year and to get feedback from constituents. This dialogue is extremely important in helping us improve our services.

Sharing Best Practices with the UK

In October, the MCC co-hosted a visit by Dave Moutrey, director of Arts About Manchester in England. The visit is part of an ongoing exchange of best practices and ideas between New England and northern England, facilitated by New England Foundation for the Arts. Arts About Manchester works with 46 cultural organizations in this former industrial city to do cooperative marketing and audience development. Their collaborative approach has greatly increased the outreach of its member organizations and is playing a key role in the redevelopment of the city. During his trip, Moutrey met and shared ideas with the Boston Arts Marketing Association and cultural communities in Holyoke and Lowell, and was a featured speaker at a cultural tourism workshop on collaborative marketing in Springfield.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Beate Klein Becker
CED Program Manager

Organizations

Congratulations to the 461 cultural organizations awarded 1998 **Organizational Support** grants. Guidelines for the coming year will be available in late December, with a March 2 application deadline. A series of information sessions will be held in February to answer questions about the guidelines. Times and locations will be printed in the guidelines.

YouthReach guidelines for the next funding cycle are now available. YouthReach funds collaborative arts-based programs for young people. If you were unable to attend one of the information sessions held across the state, contact H. Mark Smith, YouthReach Program Coordinator (x253) with your questions. A recently completed study of the initiative confirms the MCC's own experience—this initiative is having a positive impact on some of the Commonwealth's most needy young people.

Cultural Economic Development's (CED) 12 projects have been busy. In September, chefs from 10 MA and NY restaurants showcased the fruits of the first crop of the Heirloom Tomato Field Project at a tomato tasting in Lenox. The Boston Cyberarts Festival partnership now includes 22 (and counting) cultural organizations that will participate in the May 1999 festival. Check out the Festival's new website at www.bostoncyberarts.org. Congratulations to the partners from the Holyoke Art and Agriculture Project who were selected as Fellows for New England Foundation of the Arts' Building Communities through Culture Program. REACH Fitchburg has produced the first of its four

walking guides featuring the city's cultural and architectural heritage.

The use of culture as a tool for economic development represents new ground both for CED project partners and the MCC. CED staff will be working closely with the partnerships to facilitate the support, including documentation and evaluation, that they need to successfully chart this new territory.

The Organizations Department has a staff change to note. Heather McMann has left the MCC. We will miss her and wish her great success and happiness for the future. We welcome Matthew Liston as the new program associate for Organizations.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

In November, the **Massachusetts Board of Education** announced that they will re-open, and possibly revise, the curriculum frameworks for the arts, health, and world languages. New committees for each will be reviewed and approved in December. If you are interested in providing feedback on the current versions of these three frameworks or want to participate in the revision process, contact the Department of Education, 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148; 617-388-3300.

Other recent activities by the MBOE will directly impact artists and cultural organizations working with schools. The MBOE changed the total required instructional

InsideOut

time for schools from 180 days per year to 990 hours. This initially raised some alarm in the cultural community because it was unclear whether or not field trips would now count as instructional time. However, decisions concerning the educational value of field trips have always been made at the local level, and the MBOE has indicated that this will continue. At the discretion of each school district, field trips that clearly address the state curriculum frameworks can count as instructional time.

In October, the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education mailed important arts education information and a video, *The Arts & Children: A Success Story* to every superintendent in the state. The video presents strong testimony from students, teachers, and business leaders about the critical role the arts play in education. For more information, contact the MAAE at 978-448-5802.

The next **Event & Residency Roster Review** deadline is January 15. Applications will be accepted in design, media arts, puppetry, mime, theater, and visual arts.

Guidelines for the next cycle of the **Education Partnership Initiative** are available. This program supports the permanent integration of cultural resources into schools' curricula. Planning grant applications are due on March 16. Partnerships which applied for Implementation Grants at the December 2 deadline will have their pre-proposals reviewed in January. Those applicants selected to develop full proposals will have a March 16 deadline.



Michael Brady
Program Officer

Artists

The MCC is pleased to welcome Michael Brady, the new Program Officer for the Artists Department. A playwright and screenwriter, Michael is the recipient of an Oppenheimer Award, Gusu Award for Playwriting, CBS/Dramatists Guild Award, and Artist Grants from both New York and Massachusetts. He recently worked at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in marketing and development and served as a member of the New Marlborough Cultural Council.

Each year the MCC awards grants to individual artists in recognition of exceptional work. **1998 Artist Grants** will be given in choreography, fiction, and poetry. Guidelines are now available with a January 23 deadline. In 1999, awards will be given in music composition and playwriting/new theater works. To receive a copy of the guidelines, contact Kelly Bennett (x349).

Visual Arts Fellowships are funded by the MCC and administered through the New England Foundation for the Arts. 1998 grant categories are painting and works on paper with a February 2 deadline. Contact NEFA at 617-951-0010.

Spaces are still available in the MCC's final **Elder Initiative training seminar**, which will take place in Lynn. These one-week seminars teach artists and elder care service providers how to use the arts as a tool in their work with elder populations. See page 8 for details.



Lisa Hergenrother
Program Officer

Communities

Over \$3.7 million has been allocated by the MCC to the **Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program** this year. Applicants submitted grant requests to LCCs on October 15. LCCs are due to report their funding decisions to the MCC by December 15.

Welcome to the town of New Ashford, which has joined the Northern Berkshire Regional LCC.

Congratulations to 35 local cultural councils that are receiving awards through the new **LCC Matching Incentive Program**. Guidelines will be distributed this winter for LCCs wishing to apply to the program in fiscal year 1999. The deadline is July 15, 1998. Grants will be made in August.

The MCC continues to work closely with Arts Extension Service in Amherst to create training tools for LCC members. Two new resources have been developed. In October, a resource kit, *The ABCs of Grants Evaluation*, was mailed to LCC chairs. An orientation video will be available in winter.

In February there will be a celebration at the State House to recognize the 2,600 LCC volunteers for their contribution to Massachusetts' cultural and civic life. More details will follow.

Finally, we'd like to welcome Greg Raymond, the new program associate for Communities.



Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer
Lisa Safier
Communications Officer

Systems

Work has begun on the MCC's Web site. We plan to design a site that will complement our current mechanisms for delivering information and services, offer alternative and more efficient ways of getting information from the agency, and provide useful links to other organizations and service providers. We realize, however, that many of our constituents do not have access to the Internet so we will also continue our traditional methods of communicating with constituents—through meetings, printed materials, and phone conversations.

As grant recipients are aware, the MCC's grant contracts include rigorous **credit requirements**. This acknowledgment informs people about the vital role public funding plays in the life of organizations, communities, and schools. Thank you for complying with the letter and spirit of the requirements. It has made a difference. Visibility of public funding for culture has increased ten-fold over the past year. We appreciate hearing about new ways to demonstrate the role of public funding. Last year, constituents suggested that the MCC print decals for entrances and box office windows to show that an organization receives public funds. Decals have been distributed with this year's contracts to organizations and schools. If you have an idea you would like to share, please call Lisa Safier (x343).

Contracts were due in November for Organizational Support, Event & Residency, and Science in the Community. If your contract is overdue, please send it in ASAP to the Contracts Department, to the attention of Mary McCarthy. If you have any questions, please contact her at x332.

Not-for-Profit Culture Impacts Economy Significantly

Business Leaders Not Surprised

The figures in the new economic impact report come as no surprise to leaders of the business community.

"Massachusetts is blessed with a wide variety of cultural institutions, which are attractive to residents and visitors alike. Besides helping the Commonwealth offer a quality of life which attracts and maintains an educated workforce, our cultural industry fosters creativity and cultural diversity in a period when our economy is becoming more competitive in the world marketplace," said John Gould, president and CEO of Associated Industries of Massachusetts, an employer association of more than 4,800 companies and employers statewide.

Community leaders also know how important cultural resources are in the courtship between communities and businesses and workers that are looking for homes.

"Culture is a vital part of community life, making our communities more attractive to families and businesses, supporting and nurturing community values, and creating a spirit of volunteerism and civic participation that moves us all forward," said Geoffrey Beckwith, executive director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Cultural Tourism is Big Business

Cultural tourism is especially big business in Massachusetts. Tourism is the state's third largest industry, and the state's cultural assets are among its strongest drawing cards.

"Our theaters, concert halls and museums attract thousands of visitors each year to our city. In addition to improving the quality of life, this cultural vibrancy contributes in a significant way to Boston's economy through jobs, taxes and spending. Attendance at arts events generates related commerce for hotels, restaurants, retail stores,

galleries and more," said Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

Visitors are also crucial to the economy of western Massachusetts. William R. Wilson, Jr., executive director of the Berkshire Visitors Bureau, describes Berkshire County as "America's premier cultural resort." Wilson points out that the area attracts 200 million out-of-state visitors each year.

"There are 40 cultural attractions in Berkshire County," he said. "Tanglewood alone draws in \$50-60 million in just a ten-week season. A quarter of a million people a year visit the Rockwell Museum."

The new economic impact study clearly demonstrates cultural programs in Massachusetts provide thousands of jobs, produce millions of dollars in tax revenues,

attract millions of visitors, and help create an environment where highly educated people want to work and live. For anyone interested in the bottom line, the numbers are impossible to ignore.

Still, there are some people who don't need statistics to tell them what they already know. People like Maxon Chaperon of Dorchester, who owns the cab he drives and holds a half interest in another. Ask *him* what would happen if all the plays, museums, and concerts he ferries people to and from suddenly disappeared.

"What would happen?" Maxon chuckles. "I'd be out of business."

For a copy of "The Economic Impact of Massachusetts' Not-for-Profit Cultural Industry, 1996 Study" contact the MCC.

MCC Welcomes New Staff Members

Several staffing changes have been made at the MCC over the past months. Tesair Lauve, who worked at the MCC for 10 years in various capacities, most recently as Director of Programs, has left the agency. We thank Tesair for the dedicated care she gave to supporting and developing the state's cultural community.

The new Director of Programs is Tree Swenson. Tree brings a strong background in the not-for-profit literary realm, including a long stint as publisher of the award-winning Copper Canyon Press. She has served on various cultural organizations' boards, including Associated Writing Programs, a national service organization, and the Washington State Arts Alliance. Tree holds a Masters of Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government.

Deborah First has joined the staff in the new position of Director of Resource Development. She is responsible for developing partnerships with other state agencies

and private funders to leverage new monies for support of cultural programs in the state. The MCC will take careful pains not to compete with our own grant applicants for existing sources of support; instead, our primary focus will be raising new dollars from funders—especially state and federal agencies—that may share common interests, such as tourism, community development, or prevention programs for youth. Deborah brings more than 20 years of experience in policy, planning and strategic marketing in the public and private sectors. Her previous positions include executive vice president at Kortenhaus Communications, Inc., executive director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism, and executive director of the Action for Children's Television.

Finally, Michael Brady has been hired as the new Program Officer for Artists. Please see page 5 for more about Michael.



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

Connecticut Impressionist Art Trail: Portrait of a Partnership. Learn from participating historical and cultural organizations why this partnership is one of tourism's best known recent success stories. Jan 7 at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. \$15. Contact: Mary Hayes at 617-727-3201 x245.

Taxes for Photographers, Artists, and

Freelancers is an introductory seminar for arranging your finances as an independent artist. Jan 24 at the Boston Photo Collaborative, 67 Brookside Ave., Jamaica Plain. Contact: 617-524-7729.

The Next Millennium: Togetherness

Through Dance. This 11th annual conference of the International Association of Blacks in Dance will include master classes, dance showcases, workshops, and more. Jan 22-25 in Durham, NC. Contact: Nikki Bass at 919-383-0044.

Call for Entries

Boston Center for the Arts seeks slides and exhibition ideas from visual artists for consideration for its exhibition program. The Center mounts as many as 8 exhibitions a year. Ongoing deadline. Contact: 617-426-5000.

Boston Cyberarts Festival seeks proposals from cultural organizations and artists for exhibits, performances, and events which feature art and digital technology for a May 1999 festival. Contact: Boston Cyberarts Festival, 9 Myrtle St., Boston, MA 02130; 617-524-5084; www.bostoncyberarts.org; or email: cyberfest@world.std.com.

Oversoul Theater Collective seeks entries for its 1st annual multicultural one act play competition. Selected works will be presented in a public reading. Dec 22 deadline. Contact: 508-477-3210.

Toronto Worldwide Short Film Festival, the largest independent short film festival in North America, seeks 16mm or 35mm films under 40 minutes. No entry fee. Mar 1 deadline. Contact: Brenda Sherwood, Toronto Worldwide Short Film Festival, 60 Atlantic Ave., Suite #110, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6K 1X9; 416-535-8506.

Funding

The Institute of Museum and Library Services provides grants for first-time participants of the American Association of Museum's Museum Assessment Program, which assists institutions in evaluating audience development, mission definition, setting priorities, and more. Deadlines vary. Contact: 202-289-9118.

Gunk Foundation Public Art Grants support provocative projects integrated into daily life. Up to \$5,000. Contact: The Gunk Foundation/Critical Press, Nadine Lemon, PO Box 333, Gardiner, NY 12525; 914-255-8252.

The Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation offers grants of \$10,000 to assist artists in the early stages of their careers in the following disciplines: painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture. Contact: EGF, 1814 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Canada H3H 1E4.

Residencies

The MacDowell Colony offers residencies to writers, composers, visual arts, photographers, printmakers, architects, and filmmakers. Artists should apply 5-8 months in advance. Limited travel funds available.

Contact: Admissions Coordinator, The MacDowell Colony, 100 High St., Peterborough, NH 03458; 603-924-3886.

Light Work invites photographers to apply for month-long project residencies which include a \$1,200 stipend, access to photo and digital imaging facilities, supplies, publication, and use of an apartment. Ongoing deadline. Send SASE to: Light Work, 316 Waverly Ave., Syracuse, NY 13244.

Free studio space in New York City is available to visual artists for up to a year. 14 non-living spaces in Tribeca are available. Jan 31 deadline. Contact: The Space Program, The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation, 711 North Tejon St., Suite B, Colorado Springs, CO 80903; 719-635-3220.

Resources

The Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board is in a strategic planning process designed to promote collaboration, build new communication networks, and provide information for the users, creators, and managers of historical records. Contact: Angela Reddin at 617-727-2816.

Copyright Information is available from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20559. For copyright law and procedure questions, call 202-707-3000. To order copyright forms, call 202-707-9100.

Toll Free Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act is available through the federal Disability and Technical Assistance Centers at 800-949-4232. Call to get questions answered or to request printed materials or staff training.

Yankee Magazine's Community Partners fund-raising program helps non-profits raise money and visibility through subscription sales. No cost; no minimum. Contact: Christine Salem at 800-729-9265 x132.



Peter DiMuro leads a training session for artists and care providers at a Holyoke residential facility.

Reaching Out Initiative Touches Lives of Elders, Artists, and Care Providers

Through its Elder Initiative, the MCC is targeting a new constituency while reinforcing the importance of the arts in the lives of elders. Since September, elder care service providers and artists from around the state have come together during week-long seminars to learn how the arts can be used to improve the mental and physical well-being of the state's growing over-65 population.

"It's astounding to see the short- and long-term impact of the creative exchange that takes place between an elder and an artist," said seminar instructor Peter DiMuro, of Peter DiMuro Performance Associates, and an artist with Liz Lerman's Dance Exchange.

"Through this sort of training, artists who might normally be used to being creative in their own way and in their own time, can learn to propel themselves into a deeper, quicker creativity," he said.

The initiative's first phase consists of eight seminars where theory is coupled with hands-on experience in a variety of settings. It will culminate at a January symposium where participating care providers and artists will share their experiences and plan ways to continue this type of outreach.

"This initiative is teaching how the creative process can be used to stimulate people mentally as well as physically," DiMuro said.

The MCC is working on the Elder Initiative in cooperation with the Massachusetts Extended Care Federation with advice from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

The remaining workshop is in Lynn from Jan. 19-23. Interested artists can call the MCC at 800-232-0960 x401. \$150 fee per person. Professional Development grants are available.

Senate Backs \$17.5 Million for Cultural Facilities

On November 17, the state Senate approved legislation that could establish a new source of funds for not-for-profit cultural facilities in Massachusetts. Senate Bill 2024, introduced by Senator Stanley Rosenberg, proposes \$17.5 million for the MCC for grants and loans to cultural facilities. The bill is now in the House, where it is being reviewed by the Committee on Long-Term Debt and Capital Expenditures, chaired by Rep. Patricia Walrath. No action was taken by the House before the close of the legislative session on November 19, but the bill will carry forward to the next session in January.

If approved, Senate Bill 2024 would greatly expand the MCC's programs for cultural facilities. In 1995 the MCC co-founded the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project (MCFP), a partnership between the MCC, the Nonprofit Facilities Fund, and the New England Foundation for the Arts. MCFP offers technical assistance, planning grants, and loans to Massachusetts cultural organizations. Additional funds would be used for capital grants and larger loans.

Facilities dominate cultural groups' budgets and programs to an extent rarely seen in other industries. Surveys estimate \$500 million in cultural facility projects in Massachusetts over the next five years. They also suggest few groups are paying adequate attention to deferred maintenance. Several other states have invested heavily in not-for-profit cultural facilities. New Jersey, for example, established a \$40 million grant program through a bond issue in the 1980s.

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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Vol. 4, No. 1

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

FEB 14 2000

Inside

MCCLetter

Budget Increase a Vote of Confidence, page 2

1998 Artist Grant Recipients Named

Fellowships Awarded to 76 MA Artists, page 4

YouthReach Participants Exhibit

Teens Curate and Show Their Work, page 6

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

MCCConnections

\$2.6 Million Increase in MCC Budget Money for New Endowment Grant Program, Core Programs

Governor Paul Cellucci and the Massachusetts state legislature approved a budget increase of \$2.6 million for the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) in fiscal year 1999. This includes \$1.6 million for regular MCC grant programs and services, plus \$1.0 million for a new endowment grant program for cultural organizations. The 17% increase will raise the MCC's budget from \$14.7 million to \$17.3 million—the first major expansion in three years. The budget bill was signed by the Governor on July 30.

"We're very pleased," said Peter Nessen, MCC chair. "Massachusetts has a great cultural heritage. We need to invest in it."

The budget announcement concludes a process that began about eight months ago. Last fall, the MCC articulated its budget priorities for 1999. In January, Governor Cellucci recommended a budget of \$16.3 million. The House and Senate then released their own proposals. The House recommended \$14.9 million; the Senate \$22.2 million. The difference was then worked out in a Conference Committee.

"The Senate recommendation was instrumental this year," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director. "But the outcome shows we have the support of the House and Governor as well."

The MCC will have discretion over how to spend \$1.6 million of the increase. The additional \$1.0 million is restricted to an endowment grant program proposed by the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

"The \$1.6 million will allow us to expand several key programs for young people, schools, and communities," said Kelley. "We're seeing a big demand for programs like YouthReach, the Education Partnership Initiative, and the Cultural Economic Development Program."

The MCC also plans to provide increases for the 336 local cultural councils and for the hundreds of not-for-profit cultural organizations in the Organizational Support program. These programs have been level-funded for the last few years, while the MCC's budget hovered in the \$14 million range.

"We won't have as much as the Senate recommended—but increases are overdue," said Kelley.

Guidelines and criteria for the new endowment program will be established in the coming months. The budget bill stipulates a 1-1 match for all endowment grants and a maximum award of \$100,000.

Continued on P.6

Continued on P.6

Wanted: 1999 Commonwealth Award Nominations

February 24, 1999 marks the date for the presentation of the 1999 Commonwealth Awards, the state's highest honor in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, and we want your participation. Since 1993, the awards have been given every two years to individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the cultural life of Massachusetts.

A nomination form can be found in the center of this newsletter. The submission deadline is Wednesday, September 30.

"A Commonwealth Award is a singular distinction for those who have committed their lives to the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in Massachusetts. As a recipient of a 1997 Award, I feel honored by this recognition which comes from every citizen in the Commonwealth," said cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

Greetings! For some of you, "the season" is nearing its close, while for others, preparations are just beginning. This summer, I've enjoyed being an occasional tourist in my own state, taking in the many cultural offerings that help attract nearly 28 million visitors each year to Massachusetts.

Following an extended budget process, we learned at the end of July that the MCC will receive \$17.3 million—the first significant increase in three years. This is a vote of confidence in the work of the cultural community, and for the programs you provide to the public, schools, and underserved communities. For the first time in a few years, we will be able to make modest increases in our Local Cultural Council and Organizational Support programs. Of the \$2.6 million increase, \$1.0 million is restricted to an endowment grant program. In the coming months we will develop a process to administer the cultural endowment program so that it serves the community as effectively as possible.

Thank you for your support of the MCC over the past few months.


Executive Director

MCCconnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCconnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Lisa Safier. Editor/Writer: Lisa Safier. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen. Writer: Charlie McDermott.

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Lisa Thorson, *Newton*
Dianne Walker, *Boston*
Margaret Warner, *Lexington*
Anne Witherby, *Boston*

MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1999 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: Jan 23, 1999 Final Proposal: Mar 20, 1999
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY99 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwrighting/New Theater Works, & Sculpture Jan 22, 1999

Media Fellowships Dec 1999 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program TBA

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec 1, 1998
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
Mar 15, 1999

Event & Residency Program

Nov 2, 1998 Apr 1, 1999

Event & Residency Roster Review

FY99 Disciplines: Creative Writing, Dance, Music, & Storytelling Jan 15, 1999

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct 15, 1998

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: Spring 1999 Full Proposal: Jul 1999

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec 15, 1998

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

Mass. Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple Deadlines

Mass. Touring Program

Sep 1, 1998 Dec 1, 1998 Mar 1, 1999
Jun 1, 1999 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

FY99 Discipline: Music Dec 4, 1998

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan 25, 1999 Final Proposal: Mar 1

PASS Program

Oct 15, 1998

PASS Program Roster Review

Nov 9, 1998

Professional Development Program

15th of every month (except Jun)

Science in the Community Initiative

Dec 18, 1998

YouthReach Initiative

Feb 2000

Veteran Staff & Board Depart, New Appointments Announced

Governor Cellucci has announced two new appointments to the MCC board: Lois Catanzaro of Chelsea and Nancy Fitzpatrick of Stockbridge.

Lois Catanzaro is Public Affairs Director at AK Media/MA. Before assuming her current position, she served in state government for 24 years, as Executive Assistant to the Governor's Chief Secretary, the Senate Majority Leader, and the House Minority Leader. She also served as Co-Chair of the Wang Center's "Young at Arts" program.

Nancy Jane Fitzpatrick is President of The Red Lion Inn and Executive Vice President of the Fitzpatrick Companies, the parent company of Country Curtains. She has served as a trustee for the Interlaken School of Art, MassMOCA Foundation, and Boston Symphony Orchestra. She is also an incorporator of the Berkshire Museum and Hancock Shaker Village.

The two new appointments fill spots that were vacated by Jody Dow and Roberta Uno. Dow joined the board in 1991, Uno in 1992. Both served the MCC very well, and both will be missed.

Goodbye to Veteran Staff

Three long-time staff members—Gerry Flood, Lisa Safier, and Regina W. Oliver—will be leaving the MCC in August. All three are planning to return to graduate school. We wish them all a fond farewell.

Gerry Flood, Chief Operating Officer, has been on staff since 1987. During that time, he played a pivotal role in the development, refinement, and implementation of many of our fiscal, information, and office technology systems. He also managed the thousand-and-one details of the MCC's budget and accounting systems. He will be attending MIT's Dept. of Urban Studies and Planning.

Lisa Safier, Communications Officer, has also been on staff since 1987. T.J. Medrek, *Boston Tab* arts writer, called Lisa "a tireless advocate for governmental arts funding, who will be missed by the entire arts community." For years, Lisa led the MCC's efforts in communications, public relations, government relations, and special events, including the Commonwealth Awards. She will be entering NYU's program in Interactive Telecommunications.

Regina W. Oliver, Administrative Officer, has been with the MCC since 1992. Regina has a special talent for making order out of disorder. She managed many of the MCC's grant processing systems, oversaw the agency's internship program, ran the Professional Development Program, and maintained the

MCC library. She will be attending Indiana University's Library Science Program.

Welcome New Senior Staff

On the heels of these departures, two major staff appointments were announced in early August. Jerry Berger is the MCC's new Communications Director; Mary McCarthy is the new Director of Administration and Finance. Jerry Berger comes to the MCC after two years as Communications Director for the Senate Ways and Means Committee. He has had a long career in journalism, including many years as a State House reporter; he also taught journalism at Northeastern University. Mary McCarthy has been on staff since 1992. She will be leaving the position of Contract Specialist to assume her new role. Congratulations to Jerry and Mary!

MCC Salutes LCC Volunteers



Roger Farrington

Joyce Kulhawik, WBZ-TV arts and entertainment anchor, and Governor Paul Cellucci helped the MCC honor the state's 2,700 local cultural council volunteers in March. Last year alone, local councils regranted \$3.8 million of the MCC's budget, making nearly 7,000 grants to benefit every city and town in the Commonwealth.



Michael Brady
Program Officer

Artists

The MCC is pleased to announce the **1998 Artist Grants recipients** in Choreography, Fiction, Poetry, Painting, and Works on Paper. Forty-five artists received \$7,500 Artist Grant awards and 31 finalists received \$1,000. Congratulations to the following:

Choreography (72 applicants)

Award Recipients: Terese Freedman & Jim Coleman *Amherst*, Adrienne T. Hawkins *Roslindale*, Darla J. Villani *Somerville*

Finalists: Phillip Adams *Boston*, Miguel Alместica & Arlene Ayala *Worcester*, Bernie Courtney *North Brookfield*, Brian Crabtree *Jamaica Plain*, Lino Delgado *Dorchester*, Paula Josa-Jones *Chilmark*, Dawn Kramer *Roslindale*, Carol Somers *Jamaica Plain*

Fiction (424 applicants)

Award Recipients: Connie Biewald *Cambridge*, Kevin Bowen *Dorchester*, Don Lee *Boston*, Elizabeth Loudon *Amherst*, Suzanne M. Matson *Newton*, Tom Perrotta *Watertown*, Caroline Preston *Harvard*, Peggy Rambach *Andover*, Hilary Rao *Lexington*, Maxine Rodburg *Cambridge*, Seth Rolbein *Truro*, Adam Schwartz *Arlington*, Norman Waksler *Cambridge*

Finalists: Ben Brooks *Somerville*, Michelle Chalfoun *Edgartown*, Maria Flook *Truro*, Regina Hansen *Somerville*, Patricia E. Harrison *Brookline*, Helen Elaine Lee *Dorchester*, Carol Magun *Watertown*, Gary Miller *Arlington*

Painting (415 applicants)

Award Recipients: Barbara Takenaga *Williamstown*, Catherine McCarthy *Boston*, Maria Lewis Carlisle, Colleen Kiely *Roslindale*, Alexis Kuhr *South Hadley*, Jo Ann Rothschild *Milton*, Yu-Wen Wu *Wayland*

Finalist: George Herman *Lexington*

Poetry (457 applicants)

Award Recipients: Pamela Bernard *Duxbury*, Teresa Cader *Lexington*, Susan C. Conley *Boston*, Theodore Deppe *Florence*, Valerie Susan Duff *Brookline*, James Haug *Northampton*, Barbara Helfgott Hyett *Brookline*, Dzvinia Orlowsky Hoffman *Marshfield*, Teresa Pfeifer *Chicopee*, Jennifer Rose *Waltham*, Priscilla Sneff *Shirley Center*, Paula Tatarunis *Waltham*, Liz Waldner *Medford*, Ellen Doré Watson *Conway*

Finalists: Robert Clinton *Jamaica Plain*, Gary Duehr *Medford*, Peter Filkins *Cheshire*, Carol Wasserman Green *Wareham*, Ann Rae Jonas

Boston, Christopher Locke *Northampton*, Marsha Pomerantz *Somerville*, Kurt Leland *Jamaica Plain*, Carol Potter *Montague*, Sue Standing *Cambridge*, Katherine Swiggart *Newton*

Works on Paper (275 applicants)

Award Recipients: Katherine DesJardins *Boston*, Marty Epp *Boston*, Richard Yarde *Amherst*, Frances Hamilton *Boston*, Laura Tanguosso *Watertown*, Howard Johnson *Worcester*, Amanda Barrow *Roslindale*, Grace Degennaro *Lincoln*

Finalists: Jill Slosburg-Ackerman *Cambridge*, Chris Enos *Newbury*, Michelle Weinberg *North Truro*

The 1998 Artist Grants in Painting and Works on Paper were administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), with funding provided by the MCC. The visual arts grants were originally part of a regional program funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Since the NEA no longer contributes to the program and other New England states have withdrawn from a regional program, the MCC will bring administration of grants to Massachusetts visual artists in-house beginning in 1999. Funding categories will continue to rotate annually, with any given discipline funded every other year.

Guidelines for Artist Grants in Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwriting/New Theater Works, and Sculpture will be available from the MCC in November. The deadline for these disciplines is January 22, 1999. Guidelines for Artist Grants in Film and Video will be available from Boston Film/Video Foundation (BF/VF) in August, with a December deadline. Contact BF/VF at 617-536-1540.

The application deadline for the **Massachusetts Touring Roster** is December 4. The discipline under review is Music. Guidelines will be available in September.

InsideOut



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Beate Klein Becker
Program Manager, CED

Organizations

Notification of 1999 **Organizational Support Program** grants will be made in September once funding recommendations are approved by the MCC board. We anticipate that over 500 cultural organizations of all budget sizes in all geographic areas of the Commonwealth will receive grants. This program provides multi-year operating support for organizations with track records of excellence and public service.

Guidelines for next year will be available in late December, with a March 1, 1999 deadline. Organizations scheduled for a full-cycle review, which entails a site visit, include Design in the Built Environment, Historical Museums and Societies, Literature, Media Arts, Science, and Presenting/Sponsoring Organizations and Festivals. If your organization is in one of these discipline categories and does not have programming scheduled for spring 1999, please contact the MCC.

The **Cultural Economic Development (CED) Program** hired Mount Auburn Associates, an economic development consulting group, to evaluate the first year work of the pilot CED projects. Mount Auburn concluded that CED's seed funding and partnership mandate are successfully bringing culture "to the table" of community economic development.

CED project partners discussed the evaluation results at a May workshop that brought them together for the first time. In FY99, CED will provide the pilot projects with second year funding, technical assis-

THE 1999 COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND INTERPRETIVE SCIENCES



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 DEADLINE



Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts,
Sciences and Humanities

MASH



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COMMONWEALTH

AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Artist

Yo-Yo Ma 1997
Semenya McCord 1997
Louis Krasner 1995
Allan Rohan Crite 1993

Humanist

Joseph D. Thomas 1997
Julian Crandall Hollick 1995
Henry Hampton 1993

Interpretive Scientist

Charles E. Roth 1997
Bernard Zubrowski 1995
Dr. Stephen Jay Gould 1993
Barbara Waters 1993

Organizational Leadership

Edmund Barry Gaither
*Director and Curator,
National Center of
Afro-American Artists, 1997*
Frederick C. Tillis
*Director,
Fine Arts Center
University of Massachusetts at
Amherst, 1997*
Henry P. Becton, Jr.
*President and General Manager,
WGBH, 1995*
Zeren Earls
*President and Artistic Director,
First Night, Inc., 1993*
DeWitt Henry
*Executive Director,
Ploughshares, Inc., 1993*

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COMMUNITY

PURPOSE

The Commonwealth Awards are the state's highest honor in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. The Awards are given every two years to individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the cultural life of Massachusetts. The fourth Commonwealth Awards will be presented at the State House in Boston on Wednesday evening, February 24, 1999.

CATEGORIES

One award will be given in each of the following categories:

ARTIST

HUMANIST

INTERPRETIVE SCIENTIST

CULTURAL ORGANIZATION - Overall artistic/humanistic/scientific excellence and impact on public life.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP - An individual who has made an outstanding contribution as a leader of a cultural organization.

EDUCATION - An individual, cultural organization, or school that has developed a model education program in the arts, humanities, or sciences.

COMMUNITY - A local cultural council, cultural organization, or artist who has significantly integrated the arts, humanities, or sciences into a community.

PATRON - An individual, business, or foundation that contributes significant time, energy, expertise, and/or funds to benefit the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences.

CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Outstanding contributions in the advancement of excellence, access, education, or diversity in the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences in Massachusetts.

Nominees must currently reside in Massachusetts. Previous Commonwealth Awards recipients are ineligible.





COMMONWEALTH

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Black Dance and

1995

Pillow Dance Festival

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ocial Arts

achusetts 1997

d C. Holland 1995

ewis 1995

Progress 1993

unity

Area Arts

1997

apton Arts Council

le Arts Council 1993

hampion 1997

th 1995

Fitzpatrick 1993

. Sevey 1993

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Anyone may submit one or more nominations. You may nominate your organization, but you may not nominate yourself.

To make a nomination, complete the form on the reverse side and return it along with the required support materials listed below. Please photocopy the Nomination Form to make additional nominations. Please print clearly or type in a font no smaller than 10 point (this is 10 point).

NOMINATION MATERIALS

Each nomination must include two (2) complete sets of the following:

1. Nomination Form
2. Statement of Support (see Nomination Form for instructions)
3. For individuals: a resume or biographical summary
4. Up to five (5) single-sided, 8.5" x 11" pages of descriptive support material (photocopies of articles, reviews, awards, letters of support, etc.). Please label all materials with the nominee's name.

SUBMITTED MATERIALS CANNOT BE RETURNED.

PROCESS

Nominations are due by Wednesday, September 30, 1998. Notification will be made in December. Commonwealth Award recipients will be recognized at a public ceremony on Wednesday evening, February 24, 1999 at the State House in Boston.

DEFINITIONS

Arts

The arts involve the creation, presentation, and preservation of works in the following disciplines: crafts, design arts, folk arts, interdisciplinary arts, literary arts, media arts, performing arts, and visual arts.

Humanities

The humanities are branches of learning that deal with self-awareness, language, reason, creativity, human values and aspirations, and the products of all of these. Examples of humanities disciplines include, but are not limited to: criticism, history, literature, philosophy, and social studies.

Interpretive Sciences

The interpretive sciences are those activities that engage people of all ages in learning about nature, science, and technology in ways that connect directly to their lives.



SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 DEADLINE!

NOMINATION FORM

THE COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY - ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED.

TO MAKE ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS FORM.

CATEGORY (check one):

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artist | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humanist | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive Scientist | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | |

I NOMINATE:

Mr. ___ Ms. ___
Name

Title (if applicable)

Name of Organization (if applicable)

Name of Organization's Director (if different from above) Title

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone Home Telephone

Fax Email Address Web Address

MY NAME IS:

Mr. ___ Ms. ___
Name

Title (if applicable)

Name of Organization (if applicable)

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone Home Telephone

Fax Email Address Web Address

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

On a separate sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper, describe in up to one (1) page why the nominee meets the criteria of this award. Please type in a font no smaller than 10 point (this is 10 point).

SUBMISSION:

Nomination materials must be postmarked or hand-delivered by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, 1998. Nominations postmarked after that date will not be considered. Faxed nominations will not be accepted. Send nominations to:

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

ATTN: COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

TEL: 617-727-3668

120 BOYLSTON STREET

TOLL FREE: 800-232-0960

BOSTON, MA 02116-4600

TTY: 617-338-9153

tance, and greater peer exchange. In addition, CED is working on developing agency-level partnerships and initiatives that can have a statewide impact, as well as promoting increased public awareness of the economics of culture.



*Carol Guidice
Program Officer*

Education

This Spring, the **Massachusetts Board of Education** announced plans to revise the state curriculum framework for the arts. The Department of Education (DOE) is currently working with a 14-member committee of arts educators, artists, district arts education directors, and representatives from higher education and cultural organizations. Among the changes requested by the Board are the additions of an early childhood education section and an arts history component.

Over the next few months, the committee will develop learning standards in each of the four domains (dance, music, theater, and visual arts) as well as standards that cut across all arts disciplines such as the use of technology. It is expected that a final draft of the framework will be presented for the board's review in the fall.

In an effort to help schools implement all of the frameworks, the DOE has added a new feature to their web site (www.doe.mass.edu). called **Learning Standards in Action**. It provides high quality examples of activities and student work based on the frameworks and developed by Massachusetts teachers. The site

is designed to be interactive, so that users can give feedback to the creators of these sample lessons.



*Lisa Hergenrother
Program Officer*

Communities

It has been quite a year for the Local Cultural Council Program. From the first-ever "Salute to LCC Members" event at the State House in March, to our training conferences in May, it was wonderful for the staff and field representatives to meet and connect face-to-face with our constituents. LCC volunteers work so hard and the MCC truly appreciates your efforts on behalf of your respective communities.

July 15 marked the deadline for the second year of the **Matching Incentive Program**. To qualify, LCCs must raise additional cash resources beyond their standard regrant allocation from the MCC. Forty-one LCCs applied, having raised over \$860,000 in their communities. LCCs receiving money through this program will be notified in September.

For the first time in four years, a **PASS Program Roster Review** process will be conducted. Guidelines will be available in September. Please call to request a copy. Eligibility requirements will be more rigorous than in the past in order to focus the PASS Program on creating opportunities for high quality cultural field trips for children in Massachusetts. The Roster Review deadline is November 9. Cultural organizations and individual artists currently on the

roster will be recertified in staggered batches over the next several years.

During the MCC's recent strategic planning process, LCCs asked the MCC to reduce bureaucracy and shorten the time between local decision-making and applicants having access to grant funds. A major priority for the current fiscal year (FY99) will be the creation of a **new administrative system** that will greatly streamline the process for councils that have maintained a good track record of regranting. Feedback from the field will be important in our planning efforts, and the staff will present more information in the fall. This new process for LCCs will be launched in FY2000 (starting July 1, 1999).



*Gerry Flood
Chief Operating Officer*

Contracts & Systems

Our Contracts Department is in the midst of reviewing final reports submitted by FY98 grantees. Groups awaiting their final payment can expect to receive it by mid-August (the sooner you get it to us, the sooner we pay you). If you owe a final report for your FY98 grant and you haven't yet submitted it to the MCC, please contact the contracts specialist immediately. We won't be able to send your FY99 contract (and release your FY99 payment) until you bring your FY98 reporting requirements up to date.

FY99 award packages will be mailed in mid-September. You can expect payment on your grant around four weeks after you return your contract package to the MCC.

Budget Process Yields MCC Increase

"We want to develop an effective, thoughtful approach to the endowment program," said Kelley. "Endowments can be very attractive, but an organization needs to be ready to take on the challenge of raising and managing additional endowment dollars. We want to be careful to focus on organizations that can meet an endowment challenge without jeopardizing their annual operating campaigns."

The MCC's 1999 budget request emphasized a number of themes that have defined the agency's agenda in the '90s: "The arts, sciences, and humanities build stronger communities. They are an essential part of a strong educational system. They contribute enormously to our economy. They build bridges across cultures. In the right hands, they can be used to address—or better yet, prevent—some of our most stubborn social problems."

Many of these themes were echoed in the narrative that accompanied the Senate Ways

and Means recommendation: "Massachusetts boasts a wealth of cultural activities to enrich the mind and improve the community. We have long recognized that the integration of the arts, sciences, and humanities in the everyday lives of people improves the quality of life for individuals and communities, is a tonic for the soul and a tool for economic and community development. Beyond that, it's also good for business."

The Senate narrative went on to cite the economic impact of not-for-profit cultural organizations in the state—more than \$2.56 billion per year.

With the state budget process now complete, the MCC is finalizing its administrative and program budgets for fiscal year 1999. These will provide the basis for grant recommendations in all MCC programs. Award notifications and contracts for most MCC programs will be mailed in September. ■

Commonwealth Awards Process Underway

One award will be given in each of the following categories: Artist, Humanist, Interpretive Scientist, Cultural Organization, Organizational Leadership, Education, Community, and Patron. A complete list of past winners is included on the nomination form.

The nomination rules have been modified this year. An organization can now be nominated by its staff or board. However, individuals still may not nominate themselves.

Recipients of the 1999 Commonwealth Awards will be recognized at a gala celebration on Wednesday evening, February 24, 1999 at the State House in Boston. Each will receive a work of art created by a Massachusetts artist and, new this year, a Commonwealth Awards medal.

BankBoston, a corporate leader in supporting Massachusetts cultural institutions, is Presenting Sponsor of the 1999 Commonwealth Awards again this year. The MCC and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities are Host Sponsors.

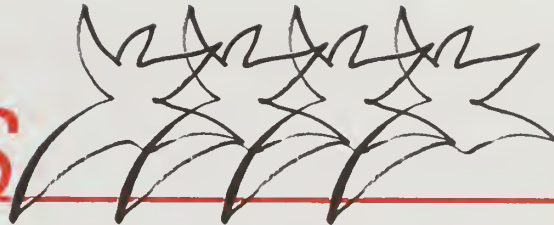
Other major corporate underwriting is provided by WCVB-TV5; Reed & Barton Silver-Smiths; Shreve, Crump & Low; and *The Berkshire Eagle*. WCVB-TV5 will produce a five-minute video for the event. Reed & Barton Silver-Smiths of Taunton will contribute the manufacturing of Commonwealth Awards medals. Reed & Barton also produced the medals for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Shreve, Crump & Low will host a premiere event in January to announce the 1999 award recipients and unveil the Commonwealth Awards medal and art award object.

Your involvement is valued and important. Please take a few moments to recognize a cultural gem—individual or organization—in your community by submitting a Commonwealth Awards nomination. For more information, contact the MCC. ■

Marilyn Humphries



H. Mark Smith, YouthReach program coordinator, and Shane Hines, Urban Arts teen curator, talk with RAW Artwork's Erin Breen about her mixed media work at Massachusetts College of Art's June 16 opening of *Rising Art*, a group show of selected artwork from YouthReach Initiatives across the state. The show, itself a YouthReach project, featured the work of over 100 young people and included paintings, masks, poetry, artists books, textiles, ceramics, mixed-media, and videos.



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

The Massachusetts Cultural Facilities

Project's Project Feasibility workshop is an intensive day-long planning seminar utilizing an organization's own financial and project data to examine the impact of program growth, fundraising capacity, and more. Sept 18 in Stockbridge. Contact: 617-727-8447.

Intersection at New WORLD Theater is a 3-day gathering focusing on new works practices by artists of color in the theater. Oct 8-11 at the University of Mass., Amherst. Contact: New WORLD Theater at 413-545-1972 or www.umass.edu/fac/nwt.

The Massachusetts Elder Arts Initiative will again offer week-long training seminars in how to use the arts as a tool in work with elders. Workshops are scheduled to begin in early 1999. Prior experience is not required. Contact: Paula Rais at 800-232-0960 x401.

Call for Entries

The Middle Passage Monument Project is accepting proposals from artists worldwide in all disciplines for a monument honoring those who died en route to or at the hands of slavery. Sept 1 deadline. \$50,000 will be awarded to the artist whose work is chosen. Contact: Homeward Bound Foundation at 888-334-9229 or www.middlepassage.org.

The David Rockefeller Center for Latin

American Studies at Harvard seeks portfolios, resumes, and/or slides from artists who do work related to Latin America, the Iberian peninsula, or Latinos in the U.S. Selected artists will be exhibited in their new building. Contact: Chris Tirres at 617-495-9189.

D.Film Digital Film Festival seeks short films made using technology in creative ways. Screenings to be held in NY, LA, Boston, London, and Rio. Ongoing deadline. Contact: D.Film, 564 Mission St., Ste 429, San Francisco, CA 94105, or email bcheever@earthlink.net.

Funding

W. Eugene Smith Foundation sponsors Humanistic Photography Grants. Five annual awards are given to U.S. photographers who aspire to perpetuate the spirit of Smith's work. Ongoing deadline. Contact: 212-860-1777.

The Richard Florsheim Art Fund assists the ongoing work of mature American artists of merit. Grants range from \$1,000-\$20,000 and support mounting of exhibit, publication of catalogs, acquisition/donation of works. Oct 1 deadline. Contact: Richard Florsheim Art Fund, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., USF 30637, Tampa, FL 33620.

The Olga Forrel Foundation is accepting nominations for grants that provide financial support for the training and development of exceptional singers and conductors in opera. Recommendations are required with the application. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Robert Bass, Olga Forrel Foundation, Empire State Building, Ste 4515, 350 Fifth Ave., NY, NY 10118.

The Jazz Foundation of America assists jazz artists with their medical, financial, and career and development needs through its Jazz Musicians' Emergency Fund. Contact: Monet Moloch, Jazz Foundation of America, 1200 Broadway, Ste 7D, NY, NY 10001; 212-213-3866.

Residencies

Gell Writers Center of the Finger Lakes provides 8-10 writers with a retreat in the woods and a stipend. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Gell Writers Center of the Finger Lakes, West Hollow Road, Naples, NY 14512; 716-473-2590.

Kokoro Studio Retreat Center offers visual arts in a contemplative setting including studios, Japanese bath, pond, waterfall, resident artists, and supportive critiques. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Kokoro Studio Retreat Center, RR1, Box 192, Castleton, VT 05735; 800-273-2278.

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts provides residencies of 2-6 months with private live/work space, monthly stipends, facilities equipped for steel and woodworking, access to printmaking/photography facilities, and more. Sept 30 deadline. Send SASE to: Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, 724 S. 12th St. Omaha, NE 68102; 402-341-7130, or download forms at www.novia.net/bemis.

Resources

ADA Guide for Small Businesses is a free booklet from the U.S. Dept. of Justice that provides a general overview of basic ADA requirements for small businesses including building accessibility, available tax credits/deductions, and additional ADA information services. Contact: 800-514-0301 (Voice) or 800-514-0383 (TDD).

ArtistSpace-Wellesley, a nonprofit organization, offers long-term, affordable studio space in Framingham. Contact: Jero Nesson at 978-369-8980.

Crafts Equipment Exchange Newsletter offers listings of used craft equipment and unused or overstocked supplies in all craft categories. Available in print or online. Contact: Corrine Anderson at 707-823-3780 or www.sonic.net/ceen.

MCC Gets 2 NEA Grants, National Award for Innovation

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) will receive two major grants from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in fiscal year 1999: a Partnership Grant of \$518,600 and a Folk Arts Infrastructure Grant of \$28,500. MCC's YouthReach Initiative was selected to receive the first annual Innovation Award from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA).

"These are all important awards," said Mary Kelley, MCC executive director. "They ac-

knowledge we're doing good work in Massachusetts—and we're being recognized at the national level."

"All of the NEA Partnership grant will go straight out in regrants, for Organizational Support, YouthReach, and the Event & Residency Program," said Charlie McDermott, MCC deputy director. "It's a major supplement to our state appropriation." The Folk Arts Infrastructure Grant will be used to expand the MCC's activities in folk and tradi-

tional arts—beginning with the addition of a full-time folk arts coordinator, a position the MCC has lacked for many years.

The NASAA award will be formally presented November 14 in Portland, Oregon at a "Celebration of Leadership" event at NASAA's annual meeting.

"We see the NASAA Innovation Award as a means to show best practices among state arts agencies and to inform the broader public of what state arts agencies can accomplish," said Peggy Amsterdam, NASAA Leadership Development Committee chair.

The YouthReach Initiative was launched in 1994, with seed funding from the NEA. The program supports cultural and community organizations that are providing substantive arts activities for young people in need. Currently, 27 projects receive YouthReach grants. More projects are expected to be added when the MCC board meets in August to approve fiscal year 1999 grants.

"NASAA's Innovation Award means a lot, not only to the MCC, but to all of the organizations that are doing this work around the state," said H. Mark Smith, YouthReach program coordinator.

MAAE Honors Outstanding Educators

Marc Keroack



MAAE Chair Jonathan Rappaport and Senate President Thomas Birmingham with Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart (l-r), who gave the keynote address at the Outstanding Arts Educator Awards.

Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education (MAAE) presented a special award to Senate President Thomas Birmingham for his education reform leadership and continued commitment to the arts and arts education in June at their annual Outstanding Arts Educator Awards Ceremony at the State House.

Other awardees included Paul Brissette (visual arts) from Martha's Vineyard

Regional High School, Bill Jacob (drama) of the Brimmer & May School in Chestnut Hill, David Jost (music) from Westborough High School, Beth Delforge (collaborative arts project) from the O'Malley School in Gloucester, and the Agawam Public Schools (school committee). The MAAE's outgoing president, Irene Buck, was also honored for her long-standing service to arts education.

1998 Artist Grants Winners Announced, p.4

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

YouthReach Receives Innovation Award, page 2

InsideView

Cultural Facilities Grants Made, page 3

Science in the Community

Benefits Recognized, page 6

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

MCC Adopts FY99 Budget, Grants \$14 Million

Hundreds of non-profit cultural organizations and local cultural councils, serving thousands of Massachusetts residents, have received \$14 million in grants distributed by the Massachusetts Cultural Council for fiscal 1999.

The grants are the first fruits of a \$17.3 million budget approved by the Legislature in late July. The budget represents a \$2.6 million increase over fiscal 1998.

"I'm pleased we've been able to expand our investment in the cultural and educational resources of Massachusetts," said MCC Board Chairman Peter Nessen. "We take great pride in every grant we make."

"We're delighted to expand a number of key programs for young people, schools and communities," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "There is a growing demand for programs such as YouthReach, the Education Partnership Initiative and the Cultural Economic Development Program, as well as core programs like Organizational Support and Local Cultural Councils."

Continued on P.3 *

MCC Programs Coming Up Taller

Five Groups Win National Recognition

Five Massachusetts Cultural Council-supported programs – including PAH! Deaf Youth Theatre – have been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities for their accomplishments in using the arts and sciences to help at-risk youth make the transition to adulthood.

PAH!, affiliated with the Wheelock Family Theatre, was one of 10 national finalists for the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities' Coming Up Taller Awards presented in a White House Rose Garden ceremony in October. The program receives funding from the MCC's innovative YouthReach Initiative which supports substantive out-of-school arts programs to young people in need.

Four other MCC-supported groups – Artists for Humanity, Art Express, the Boston Photo Collaborative and the Computer Clubhouse – were among only 51 semi-finalists nationwide.

The five groups were honored at an October ceremony in the Massachusetts State House and at a reception at Boston City Hall. Art work was on display for part of the afternoon and members of the PAH! troupe performed a short skit.

Continued on P.6 *



Jody Steiner, (center) director of PAH! Deaf Youth Theatre and Baranda Bacigalupo, teen representative, present a T-shirt to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton following PAH's recognition as a Coming Up Taller Award finalist.

Photo courtesy of Jody Steiner

We are very proud to announce that the YouthReach Initiative just received the Innovation Award from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. The award was presented to me and our wonderful Program Coordinator, H. Mark Smith, at their annual conference in Portland, Oregon on November 14, 1998. This is first time the National Assembly has given the Innovation Award and we are thrilled to be the first recipient.

Innovative program development requires diligent care and feeding. As so many of you know, it can take several years and there will be disappointments and obstacles along the way. While innovative ideas are exciting and can inspire, the devil is still in the details and in the constant attention and hard work that the partnership process demands.

Our YouthReach Initiative was begun five years ago in 14 communities across the Commonwealth. Now we are in 39 communities and using the arts to reach youths who are in danger of not making that successful transition to adulthood for reasons of disability, violence or sexual orientation. The arts are indeed a powerful tool to empower our youth. The hard work of the YouthReach project is paying off.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen.

MCC Office

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Email: mcc@art.state.ma.us

MCC Board

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Lois Catanzaro, *Chelsea*
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Lora Nemrow Estey, *Boston*
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Dianne Walker, *Boston*
Margaret Warner, *Lexington*
Anne Witherby, *Boston*

MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 1999 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: Jan 23, 1999 Final Proposal: Mar 20, 1999
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY99 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwriting/New Theater Works, & Sculpture Jan 22, 1999

Media Fellowships Nov 19 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Rolling

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec 1, 1998
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals: Mar 15, 1999

Event & Residency Program

Nov 2, 1998 Apr 1, 1999

Event & Residency Roster Review

FY99 Disciplines: Creative Writing, Dance, Music, & Storytelling Jan 15, 1999

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct 15, 1998

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: Spring 1999 Full Proposal: Jul 1999

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec 15, 1998

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

Mass. Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple Deadlines

Mass. Touring Program

Sep 1, 1998 Dec 1, 1998 Mar 1, 1999
Jun 1, 1999 (617-951-0010)

Mass. Touring Program Roster Review

FY99 Discipline: Music Dec 4, 1998

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan 25, 1999 Final Proposal: Mar 1

PASS Program

Oct 15, 1998

PASS Program Roster Review

Nov 9, 1998

Professional Development Program

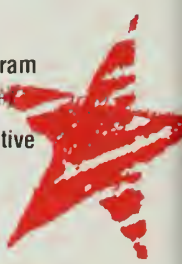
15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

Mar 19, 1999

YouthReach Initiative

Feb 2000



Continued from P.1 *

MCC Adopts FY99 Budget, Grants \$14 Million

The largest piece of the pie, \$6.8 million, was distributed in the form of Organizational Support grants. The three-year matching grants went to 511 nonprofit cultural organizations of all types and sizes, in every area of the state. The groups share track records of excellence and community service.

Another \$3.9 million was allocated for 336 local cultural councils serving every city and town in the state – a grassroots program of local aid for the arts, sciences and humanities that is unique in the nation. This was supplemented by \$170,308 for the LCC Matching Incentive Program. A total of 41 LCCs raised more than \$860,000 from their municipalities and private donors to qualify for the Matching Incentive grants. The majority of the applicants came from smaller cities and towns with LCC allocations under \$10,000.

In addition, the MCC reaffirmed and extended commitments to four signature programs – Education Partnership Initiative, YouthReach, Science in the Community and Cultural Economic Development.

The Education Partnership Initiative provides three-year grants to coalitions of cultural organizations, school districts and other community groups to develop partnerships that permanently integrate the arts, humanities and sciences into schools' curricula. The latest cycle provided \$658,858 to continue nine previous partnerships and to implement three new initiatives that will focus on the Cambridge, Worcester and Lynn public school systems.

The MCC allocated \$805,755 for the nationally recognized YouthReach program, which uses the arts to reach at-risk youth across the state. (See page 1.) For fiscal 1999, 12

new initiatives were funded in communities including Lowell, Salem, Cambridge, Boston and Mashpee. They join 27 continuing projects in Lynn, Turners Falls, Lawrence, Holyoke, Worcester and elsewhere.

YouthReach's companion program, Science in the Community, distributed \$252,653 for fiscal 1999, enabling the continued funding of 12 projects in Boston, Worcester, Holyoke, the Merrimack Valley, the Berkshires, Easton, Cape Cod and elsewhere.

The Cultural Economic Development Program approved \$297,200 in second-year grants for 10 projects – important seed money to partnerships that put culture at the center of community development efforts.

The MCC also extended its relationship with the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, which strives to bring the humanities out of the classroom and into the community; the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education, which promotes art education throughout the Commonwealth; the New England Foundation for the Arts; and Very Special Arts Massachusetts for the ADA Mini-Grant Program.

Still to come in this fiscal year is the creation of a \$1 million program for cultural organizations considering the creation or expansion of endowments. The program is designed to promote planning and stability among cultural organizations, and to help organizations think strategically about endowments and other financial goals.

Other grants to be announced later in the year include Artist Grants, which provide fellowships for artists in different disciplines, and Event & Residency grants, which help schools bring artists into classrooms.

Cultural Facilities Project Announces Latest Grants

In the last quarter, the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project has announced the award of seven planning grants totaling \$65,040 to cultural organizations in Massachusetts.

- ▶ Ballet Theatre of Boston: \$10,000 for a fundraising feasibility study and organizational capacity assessment
- ▶ Downtown Pittsfield, Inc.: \$10,000 to identify uses for the Colonial Theatre and conduct a market assessment
- ▶ Huntington Theatre Company, Boston: \$10,000 for a market feasibility study
- ▶ Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston: \$10,000 for a feasibility analysis, business plan, and management review
- ▶ International Institute of Boston: \$10,000 for a facilities needs assessment
- ▶ MJT Dance Company, Boston: \$5,040 for a space needs assessment
- ▶ North Shore Music Theatre, Beverly: \$10,000 for a fundraising feasibility study

MCFP also announced a low-interest loan of \$80,000 to Old Sturbridge Village, to help finance the acquisition of new computer systems for research and collections, the installation of a fiber optic network and other equipment needs.

The Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project is a partnership between the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Nonprofit Facilities Fund, a nonprofit lender and technical assistance provider. MCFP provides resources to support thoughtful planning and financing of cultural facilities in Massachusetts. This goal is achieved through workshops and clinics, individual consultations, consultant referrals, planning grants for pre-development, and low-interest loans for facilities development.

For more information about the workshops, planning grants or loan program, contact the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project, 120 Boylston Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02116; 617-727-8447.



Michael Brady
Program Officer

Artists

There is an important deadline coming up in January for the Artist Department.

- ▶ The deadline for all MCC Artist Grants will be January 22, 1999. Disciplines for 1999 include Music Composition, Playwrighting/New Theater Works, Crafts, Photography, and Sculpture. MCC Artist Grants recipients receive an award of \$7,500 and finalists receive \$1,000. Applications for the Massachusetts Touring Program Roster Review and Artist Grants Program are available from the MCC.

Staff and Board members and representatives of the state's cultural community gathered at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel recently to honor MCC Artist Grant recipients. Over 80 individual artists in a variety of disciplines were saluted by Executive Director Mary Kelley and MCC Board Chairman Peter Nessen for their original contributions to Massachusetts' artistic life. Artist Grants are highly competitive and awarded solely on the basis of excellence.

Two residencies will be granted to Massachusetts visual artists as part of the 1999 Artist Grant program. The Contemporary Artists Center (CAC) in North Adams, an artists' facility for all media, is providing a three-week residency to one recipient. For more information about CAC, please call 413-663-9555, or www.cacart.org.

The Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vermont is providing a four-week residency to another recipient. Vermont Studio Center will also offer 50 percent fellowships for four-week residencies to all 1999 MCC Artist Grant recipients in visual arts. For more information on the Vermont Studio center, call 802-635-2727.

The work of 1997 Artist Grant recipient Marian Roth will be on public display in the MCC office at 120 Boylston Street from December, 1998 through February, 1999. MCC office hours are 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

The work of Adrienne T. Hawkins, Darla J. Villani, Terese Freedman and Jim Coleman, the 1998 MCC Artist Grant Recipients in Choreography, will be featured as part of Dance Umbrella's Boston Moves series on January 15, 1999 at 8 pm at the Emerson Majestic Theatre in Boston.

We are pleased to announce that Claudia Heiman has joined the Artists Department as our new program associate. Claudia has worked for the past three years as executive assistant to MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Beate Klein Becker
Program Manager, CED

Organizations

Through the Organizational Support Program for fiscal 1999, \$6.8 million was awarded to 511 cultural organizations across the state. For details, please see page 1.

The department is happy to announce the hiring of a new program coordinator responsible for Community-Based Organizations, Community Art Centers, Local Arts Agencies, Multiservice Agencies with Strong Cultural Components, Folk Arts, Media, and Presenting/Sponsoring Organizations and Festivals. Stella McGregor comes to us with an impressive background in the state's cultural community.

InsideOut

This new position will allow H. Mark Smith to concentrate wholly on YouthReach, along with shifting oversight of various panels among several other staff members. All affected organizations will be notified directly of these changes as soon as the new Program Coordinator is on board. If you have questions in the interim, we will be happy to answer them. Organizational Support Program Guidelines will be available by January for a deadline of March 1, 1999.

In August the Council approved second-year funding for a final six Cultural Economic Development pilot projects, bringing total funding to \$297,200 for 10 projects. Project partners met at a workshop at the Fitchburg Art Museum in October where they engaged in lively peer exchange and focused on articulating the economic aspects of their respective projects.

CED is delighted to be joined by Deb Keller, who consulted for the MCC on first-year project evaluations, and is now helping develop new program guidelines. Applications for new CED funding will be available in January.



Mary McCarthy
Director of Administration
and Finance

Contracts & Systems

The Administration and Finance Department is pleased to announce the hiring of Cyndy Gaviglio for the position of contracts coordinator. Some of you may remember Cyndy from a number of years ago or, more recently, filling in part-time this past spring. We are very happy to have her back with us.

All fiscal 1999 award packages have been mailed. If you are expecting an award package and have not received one, please call Cyndy(x332). Remember, it is very important that you carefully read the instructions in the award package and note all the deadlines. Missed deadlines may lead to a full or partial reversion of your fiscal 1999 award.

Contracts are due back to the MCC within 60 days of their receipt. The actual due date can be found on the contract cover sheet. Once the MCC receives the contract it will take approximately four to six weeks to process any grant equal to or greater than \$20,000. Grants less than \$20,000 have a processing time of three to four weeks. The additional time for the larger grants is due to the contract being sent to the State Comptroller's Office for approval. We always do everything we can to reduce this time period but please plan accordingly.

Grants less than \$4,000 will be paid in full. Organizations receiving a grant of \$4,000 or more will be paid 80 percent of the total grant amount. The final 20 percent is released as a reimbursement after all grant requirements are met.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

In late November, the US Department of Education announced the results of the 1997 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) of eighth graders in dance, music, theater, and visual arts. This Nation's Report Card for arts education

represents the first national measurement of what students know and can do in the arts in more than 20 years.

Overall, student performance was disappointing with few demonstrating high level knowledge or skills in responding, creating, and performing. While US Secretary of Education, Richard W. Riley, expressed concern with the results, he noted that they demonstrated that "As a nation we are falling far short in the opportunities we provide to our students for quality arts instruction."

Although music and visual arts are taught in a large percentage of schools, student access to theater and dance instruction is very limited. Eighty-three percent of all students being tested attended schools where theater was not taught at least once or twice a week. Ninety-three percent indicated that dance was not offered at least once a week in their schools.

More than 6,000 eighth graders nationwide participated in one of three assessments. The visual arts and music samples were nationally representative of all eighth graders. In contrast, only those students whose schools offered theater instruction took the theater assessment. An assessment for dance had been developed, but was not administered because a statistically suitable sample could not be located. Unlike NAEP exams for other subjects, the arts assessment included examples of actual art works for students to interpret and hands-on activities in which students created original art and/or performed existing works of art.

As local cultural councils (LCCs) statewide are meeting locally to determine which grants will be funded by their councils, assistance is readily available for new chairs or members in a variety of formats.

The Communities Department is organized into three regional teams. Each Boston-based staff person is paired with a field representative who works from a home office. Team members conduct site visits to compile profile information about every LCC across the state. Each team works closely to provide encouragement and help to the LCCs in their region. Because of the large number of LCCs (336) and the MCC's desire to be as accessible as possible to LCC volunteers, we will be adding an additional field representative this year to cover Worcester County exclusively.

Additional resources that are helpful for new chairs or members include:

- ▶ The New Chair Survival Kit;
- ▶ The LCC Program Regulations and Guidelines and the LCC Handbook (every member should have one of these);
- ▶ The LCC member training video – available on a loan basis from the MCC.

Also available are topic specific resource kits featuring tips and samples from LCC peers on:

- ▶ ABCs of Grants Evaluation;
- ▶ Conducting Community Input.

These materials may be requested directly from the MCC Communities Department.

MCC Programs Coming Up Taller

"We're delighted that others have discovered what we've known for some time, that the arts and sciences are important tools in helping to transform lives," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "Our hats are off to all the groups across the Commonwealth which work to build better communities."

The Coming Up Taller awards, which are co-sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, recognize outstanding after-school, weekend and summer programs that offer children safe havens, creative outlets, new learning opportunities and ways to contribute to their community and build their own future.

"Every time we watch a child's face light up as she plays the first few notes of a song or put the final touches on a painting, we see the power of the arts to educate and inspire," First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton told the Rose Garden audience. "Participation in the arts can give children the positive alternatives they need to stay out of harm's way and the confidence in their God-given potential."

PAH! is one of 39 YouthReach grant recipients that involve the full spectrum of arts, including theater, dance, visual arts, video, writing, music, performance art and public art. The programs are funded in small western Massachusetts hilltowns as well as urban centers.

PAH!, an American Sign Language expression that means "Finally, We Did It," provides hearing-impaired adolescents with a place to develop the tools needed to overcome linguistic isolation and societal prejudices. Students spend 10 months, meeting twice a week after school at the Wheelock Family Theatre, to participate in African dance and drumming, theater crafts, acting and ASL poetry and storytelling. The year culminates in a public production created and performed by PAH! actors in ASL, with interpreters providing translations in spoken English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Two other YouthReach groups were named as national semi-finalists. Artists for Humanity enables inner city teens to develop marketable skills in a disciplined and safe environment. Many of the program's participants have "beat the odds" to enter college or launch successful careers as graphic designers or photographers.

Art Express, the other YouthReach semi-finalist, is a part of Arts a la Carte, Federated Dorchester Neighborhood Houses' comprehensive afterschool arts program. These programs offer a broad range of instruction for young people ages 6 to 19 to develop not only artistic talent but also job skills and career awareness.

The President's Committee also singled out for semi-finalist attention the Computer Clubhouse at the Computer Museum. This is one of the MCC's 12 Science in the Community Programs, which are designed to improve scientific literacy, excite interest in the sciences as well as promote critical thinking, encourage self-esteem and build career awareness.

At the Computer Clubhouse, inner city youth receive an opportunity to work with adult mentors to create artwork, build Web pages, write and illustrate poetry and build kinetic sculptures and robotic constructions.

The fifth semi-finalist, Boston Photo Collaborative, receives funding through the MCC's largest program, Organizational Support, which provides direct support to more than 500 groups statewide.

The Photo Collaborative addresses employment and life skills issues through efforts such as Project Image, which offers many teens their first paying job, and Teen Image, a program that provides an opportunity to gain business skills and photography skills while actually running a business.



Jim Fossett

Young women extract the DNA from an onion as part of Project Scope's Science in the Community project in Worcester.

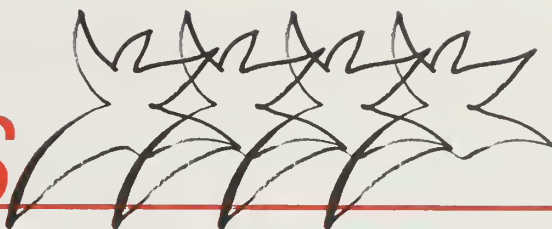
Science in the Community Wins National Attention

It's not often that a science program captures the attention of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. But the MCC's Science in the Community program has done just that.

Now in its third year, Science in the Community supports 12 partnerships across the state. One of those efforts, the Computer Clubhouse at the Computer Museum, was cited by the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities as a program that provides both a creative outlet and a safe haven for youngsters eager to learn about their community and to contribute to it. (See related story.)

The program provides grants to science museums, children's museums and other community organizations to create partnerships that help children understand the intricacy of the world around us. It is designed to improve scientific literacy, excite interest in the sciences, promote critical thinking, encourage self-esteem and build career awareness. Most activities take place outside of the school, after regular school hours, in the summer or on weekends – in times and places where kids are most in need of constructive activities.

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCC Connections. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed.

Workshops

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

will lead a half-day seminar "Getting Ready for a Facilities Project" in spring 1999 designed for organizations with limited planning experience. Contact: 617-727-8447 for dates.

Call for Entries

Galeria Mesa features national juried exhibitions open to artists residing in the U.S.

Ongoing deadline. Contact: Mesa Arts Center at 602-644-2056; <http://artresources.com/clients/12.html>.

Art in Embassies Program. Artists can loan work for up to 3 years to embassies worldwide. Ambassadors are urged to publish a catalog including the participating artists' work. Dept. of State handles shipping, insurance, etc. Pre-requisite: American citizenship. Ongoing deadline. Send resume and slides of available work to: Gwen Berlin, Director, Art in Embassies Program, U.S. Dept. of State, RM B-258, Washington DC 20520; 202-647-5723.

New York Dept. of Cultural Affairs maintains an Artist's Slide Registry used to select artists for projects. Also used by curators, consultants, architects and other public art programs. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Percent for Art, Artist's Slide Registry, New York City Dept. of Cultural Affairs, 330 W. 42nd Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10036; 212-643-7769.

Room 5 is a monthly screening market that exposes independent filmmakers to key Hollywood dealmakers. No fee. Contact: Koina Freeman at 301-558-5874.

Funding

Library Fellows Grant for Book Artists is open to women artists. One proposal for a new artist's book is selected annually and funding is provided for its creation. Dec. 31 deadline. Mail SASE for guidelines to: Krystyna Wasserman, Library and Research Center, National Museum of Women in the Arts, 1250 New York Ave., NW, Washington DC 20005; 202-783-7364.

The Art-in-Architecture Program oversees the commissioning of artworks for federal facilities that have been created by living artists of local, regional, and national reputation. Ongoing deadline. Contact: Art-in-Architecture Program, General Services Administration, Room 3341, 1800 F Street, NW, Washington DC 20405; 202-501-1812.

Artslink provides funds to US artists/arts organizations to work collaboratively with artists in Europe on projects that benefit artists and audiences in both countries. No deadline specified. Contact: Artslink, CEC International Partners, 12 W. 31 St., New York, NY 10001; <http://pathfinder.com.twep/artslink/>.

Residencies

Artists & Communities: America Creates for the Millennium is a 6-9 month artist-in-residence program to take place during the year 2000. Artists selected for the program will have demonstrated a commitment to and experience in artmaking in a community context. Jan. 1 deadline.

Contact: Mid-Atlantic Art Foundation, 22 Light St., Ste 300, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-800-697-0143.

The Djerassi Resident Artists Program

awards grants to artists which include living and studio accommodations and meals. The 4-5 week residencies are given in Choreography, Literature, Music Composition, Visual Arts and Media Arts/NewGenres. Feb. 15 deadline. Contact: Djerassi Resident Artists Program, 2325 Bear Gulch Road, Woodside, CA 94062; 650-747-1250; www.djerassi.org.

Nantucket Island School of Design & the Arts

provides residencies year-round in fields of photography, painting, ceramics, textiles, writing, music and performance. Ongoing deadline. Contact NISDA, PO Box 958, 23 Wauwinet Road, Nantucket, MA 02554; 508-228-9248.

Virginia Center for the Creative Arts offers residencies for visual artists, writers, and composers for 1 week to 2 months. Private room. Fee: \$30/day, financial assistance available. Jan. 15, May 15 & Sept. 15, 1999 deadlines. Contact: Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Mt. San Angelo, Box VCCA, Sweet Briar, VA 24595; 804-946-7236.

Resources

Benton Foundation has created an online Best Practices Toolkit for non-profits at www.benton.org/Practice/Toolkit. Includes an online primer in advocacy, a database of Internet public access sites, a link to technology funding for nonprofits and a list of non-profit technical assistance providers.

The Nonprofit Gateway. www.nonprofit.gov. administered by the White House Office of Public Liaison, serves as a federal information clearing house for nonprofit organizations. Links to nonprofit issues and a database of 520,000 government web pages.

Workshops Help Grantees Answer the Tough Questions

For many organizations, receiving a grant can often trigger the question, "Now what?" This is especially true in programs that require complex multi-year partnerships such as YouthReach, Science in the Community and the Education Partnership Initiative.

To help cope with that reality, the Massachusetts Cultural Council has sponsored a number of workshops to enable grant recipients to sit down together, network and compare notes on successes and challenges.

"Workshops where grantees can compare notes and best practices are a sensible step to maximize our investment," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "This is simply the best way to do business."

In early November, representatives of 35 YouthReach projects met at Holy Cross College in Worcester. Roundtable discussions touched on sensitive issues such as how to balance cultural identity with mainstream immersion and how to get parents and caregivers involved.

A few weeks earlier, the Cultural Economic Development program held a day-long session, hosted by the Reach Fitchburg project at the Fitchburg Art Museum. Participants from 10 projects worked to define and articulate economic objectives, strategies and measures and worked together on ways to build support among funders, private businesses and other potential supporters.

In mid-September, the MCC's Education Department hosted a planning and networking retreat for its Education Partnership Initiative grantees. The workshop was led by Craig Dreeszen of the Arts Extension Service. To foster successful collaborations from the beginning, planning grantees participated in two days of workshops on how to build and maintain strong partnerships. Individual teams also engaged in in-depth planning sessions to review their goals, assess their progress to date and make changes. On the second day, implementation teams joined the planning grantees, offering an opportunity for new and experienced partnerships to exchange ideas.

The 12 funded Science in the Community projects and their collaborators met in late April to present snapshot descriptions of their projects, shared literature, successes, findings and resources. Best practices workshops helped groups deal with the evaluation process and panels looked at such topics as the role of science institutions in education reform, successful collaborations for teaching math, science and technology and the importance of family and community involvement.

Breakfast with Monet



Massachusetts legislators and their aides had a chance to enjoy "Breakfast with Monet" during a September viewing of the show at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts.

The breakfast, hosted by MCC Board Member and University of Massachusetts President William M. Bulger, was designed as a thank you for past legislative support with an opportunity to review how the MCC has used the annual appropriation.

Among the speakers and guests were: MFA Director Malcolm Rogers, House Ways and Means Committee Assistant Vice Chair Harriett Stanley, D-Merrimack, MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley, MCC Chairman Peter Nessen and University of Massachusetts President William Bulger.

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MCCConnections

Inside

Meet the Commonwealth Award Recipients
Short bios on each honoree, page 3

Peter Houk Designs Award Object
Belmont artist to create glass platters, page 4

Olympic Medal-Makers Craft First Commonwealth Award Medal

The 1999 Commonwealth Awards presentation will include a newly commissioned medal to recognize the recipients of the state's highest honor in the arts, humanities and sciences.

The medal, designed by artist Deborah Bluestein of Cambridge and crafted by Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton, will be presented at the Commonwealth Awards ceremony on February 24.

"We are delighted to be able to support Massachusetts artists," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "We are also grateful for the support of Reed & Barton in bringing this medal to life."

The medal combines a star from the MCC logo with a shape in the form of Massachusetts and a wavy band designed to evoke the flow of creativity. The back of the medal allows for the engraving of the

Continued on P.2 *

Commonwealth Gala Approaching State to Honor 8 for Their Cultural Contributions on Feb. 24

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has named eight distinguished residents and organizations as recipients of the 1999 Commonwealth Awards, the state's highest honor for contributions in the arts, humanities and sciences.

The recipients, to be honored at a public ceremony at the Massachusetts State House on Wednesday, February 24 at 5:30 p.m., are:

- ▶ Artist—Tina Packer, Artistic Director, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox
- ▶ Humanist—David McCullough, historian, West Tisbury
- ▶ Scientist—Bradford Washburn, Honorary Director, Museum of Science, Boston
- ▶ Community—Clara Wainwright, artist, Brookline
- ▶ Organizational Leadership—Jeremy Alliger, Founder and Director, Dance Umbrella, Boston
- ▶ Cultural Organization—Springfield Library & Museums Association
- ▶ Education—Massachusetts College of Art, Boston
- ▶ Patron—The LEF Foundation, Cambridge

The Awards were introduced in 1993 as a biennial event by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities, a citizens' organization that promotes the state's cultural resources.

"The award recipients deserve praise for their valuable contributions that enrich the quality of life in Massachusetts," said Governor Paul Cellucci, co-chairman of the Arts, Sciences and Humanities Legislative Leadership Committee. "The state is home to an impressive array of cultural resources worthy of honor and recognition."

"This is an opportunity to recognize not only the stars but, equally importantly, the unsung heroes and heroines who make vital contributions by educating our children or enriching the lives of our communities," said Ira A. Jackson, executive vice president, BankBoston, the Presenting Sponsor for this year's Awards.

Commonwealth Award recipients will receive a medal, designed by artist Deborah Bluestein of Cambridge and crafted by Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton, one of the state's oldest manufacturers, celebrating its 175th anniversary this year. Bluestein is a graphic designer with more than 20 years of experience working with words and images.

The recipients will also receive an art object designed by Peter Houk of Belmont, a glassmaker, painter and printmaker whose work has been exhibited across the country.

Continued on P.2 *

Reed & Barton Craft Commonwealth Medal



The Commonwealth Award Medal, designed by Deborah Bluestein of Cambridge. The medals were crafted and donated by Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton.

*Continued from P.1 **

honoree's name within a ring marked by the words "Creativity," "Commitment" and "Community."

Bluestein's design was selected from submissions from a statewide call for proposals. A graduate of Bennington College and

*Continued from P.1 **

1999 Commonwealth Awards Announced

"Massachusetts is enriched by a prized resource of people with broad talent and a willingness to share their knowledge and skills with all our citizens," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "It's a pleasure to salute them."

Recipients were selected from 142 nominations received from a statewide process that

Emerson College, she has studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy and served as apprentice to Muriel Cooper.

To craft the medal, Precise Die Cutting of Attleboro created two models—one for each side of the medal—by making templates from Bluestein's computer-rendered working drawings. From there, the die was created into which metal is squeezed. When the two sides are joined and the final cleanup is completed, the model is used to create a rubber mold.

The medal is then ready for production. Reed & Barton—one of the nation's oldest privately held companies, which designed and manufactured the medals for the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games—uses centrifugal casting to form the medal. During centrifugal casting, the metal is poured and force-filled into the rubber mold. Once taken from the mold, it is buffed, polished and silverplated.

began last summer. Winners were selected by a panel composed of individuals from the cultural community across the state.

Tickets are still available for the February 24 ceremony at 5:30 p.m. in the State House in Boston. A reception will follow. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be charged by phone at 617-824-8000.

MCCconnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCconnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout/Writer: Dawn Heinen.

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Past Commonwealth Award Recipients

Artist

Yo-Yo Ma 1997
Semenya McCord 1997
Louis Krasner 1995
Allan Rohan Crite 1993

Humanist

Joseph D. Thomas 1997
Julian Crandall Hollick 1995
Henry Hampton 1993

Interpretive Scientist

Charles E. Roth 1997
Bernard Zubrowski 1995
Dr. Stephen Jay Gould 1993
Barbara Waters 1993

Community

Hudson Area Arts Alliance 1997
Northampton Arts Council 1995
Somerville Arts Council 1993

Organizational Leadership

Edmund Barry Gaither
Director and Curator,
National Center of Afro-American Artists 1997
Frederick C. Tillis
Director, *Fine Arts Center,*
University of Massachusetts at Amherst 1997

Henry P. Becton, Jr.
President and General Manager,
WGBH 1995

Zeren Earls
President and Artistic Director,
First Night 1993

DeWitt Henry
Executive Director, *Ploughshares* 1993

Cultural Organization

Center for Independent Documentary 1997
Art of Black Dance and Music 1995
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival 1995

Education

Very Special Arts Massachusetts 1997
Rosebud C. Holland 1995
Elma Lewis 1995
Arts in Progress 1993

Patron

Marge Champion 1997
Aerosmith 1995
Jane P. Fitzpatrick 1993
John C. Sevey 1993



1999 Commonwealth Award Recipients

Artist



TINA PACKER

Actor, director, teacher, Tina Packer has enjoyed a long and distinguished career bringing Shakespeare to a broad audience. Since founding Shakespeare &

Company in 1978, Packer's performances and productions—and her ability to share her knowledge with youngsters and established actors—have brought her numerous international honors and recognition.

Humanist



DAVID MCCULLOUGH

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer and host of WGBH's PBS history series *The American Experience*, David McCullough is a tireless advocate for public libraries

and historic preservation. The Martha's Vineyard resident has combined rigorous historic scholarship with a gift of storytelling in five books and more than 100 essays.

Interpretive Scientist



BRADFORD WASHBURN

A cartographer and photographer, Bradford Washburn is the founder and builder of Boston's Museum of Science. He recognized that

"dusty cases, grumpy guards and lengthy labels" were not the future of natural history museums. Instead, he brought together, for the first time under one roof, the disciplines of natural history, physical and applied sciences and medicine.

Community



CLARA WAINWRIGHT

A quiltmaker with a mission to create joy and community, Clara Wainwright was the founder and first director of First Night, the

quintessential conjunction of civic pride and the arts that began in Boston and has spread literally around the globe. Her current three-year Millennium Quilt Project will ultimately create a dozen quilts to be exhibited in the year 2000 and involves people of various ages and backgrounds throughout Boston.

Organizational Leadership



JEREMY ALLIGER

Founder and director of the Dance Umbrella, Jeremy Alliger has presided over the growth of contemporary dance as a producer, edu-

cator and creator of national models such as the Multicultural Dance Curriculum and Dance Company-in-Residence. Under his leadership, Dance Umbrella has been instrumental in the revival of tap, the recognition of hip hop as a dance form and the presentation of the International Festival of Wheelchair Dance.

Cultural Organization

SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY AND MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

Combining a library, arts, science and historical museum in one beautiful urban



Courtesy Springfield Lib. & Mus. Assn.

park, the Springfield Library and Museums Association serves a variety of audiences in its downtown Quadrangle. The association celebrates the ethnic groups that comprise Springfield's diverse community through books, exhibitions, performances and folk arts, providing a neutral forum where people can learn about themselves.

Education

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART

The nation's only four-year public art college, the Massachusetts College of Art provides all



Courtesy Mass. College of Art

Mass. College of Art glassblowing class

citizens of the Commonwealth with the opportunity to obtain both a visual arts education and a strong general education in the liberal arts. The College and its students are an integral part of their community, using art to beautify and restore pride in neighborhoods.

Patron



Lyda Kuth, LEF Associate Director

THE LEF FOUNDATION
Created with the mission of funding projects, programs and services that encourage a positive interchange between the arts and the natural and urban environment, the LEF Foundation serves as an advocate as well as a patron for the arts in Massachusetts. Led by Lyda Kuth, associate director and founding trustee, the foundation's activities reflect the essential role that individual artists play in illuminating, celebrating and challenging communities.

Hakim Raquib



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Peter Houk Selected to Create 1999 Award Object

Recipients of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's 1999 Commonwealth Awards will be presented with a sandblasted glass platter crafted by Belmont artist Peter Houk.

"One of the most appealing aspects of the Awards is fostering the creativity in the creation of art objects every two years," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

The handblown glass is crafted by Houk and a team of artisans and each piece will be 18 to 20 inches in diameter and approximately 3 inches high with unique imagery on each.

Houk's design was selected from responses to a statewide call for proposals. A graduate of Oberlin College and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Houk has studied at the Pilchuck Glass School in Stanwood, WA, where he was nominated for the Corning Prize in 1990, 1996 and 1998 and the Saxe Award in 1995.

He has exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Smithsonian Craft Show. He is also a full-time instructor of graphic arts.

Vin Catania



In 1997, Commonwealth Award recipients received multimedia totems created and individualized by Deborah Putnoi. Artist books created by Laura Davidson in 1995 contained illustrations depicting why each person or organization was being honored. The inaugural 1993 ceremony featured coffee sets created by ceramic artist Gabrielle Schaffner with designs to reflect each recipient's discipline or contribution.

Shreve, Crump & Low Hosts Press Reception

The 1999 Commonwealth Awards were kicked off at a press reception hosted by Shreve, Crump & Low. The reception marked the announcement of the award recipients as well as the unveiling of this year's art award object and the first-ever Commonwealth Awards medal.

Also premiering at the reception was *Massachusetts, A Commonwealth of Creativity*, a video produced by WCVB-TV, which will be shown again at the award gala in February.

"Far more important than these tangible

awards will be the psychic reward of recognition for a job well done in an important yet often overlooked area of our lives," said Ira Jackson, executive vice president of BankBoston and emcee for the reception.

Following the Shreve's event, the award recipients, Commonwealth Award Patrons, and Corporate Sponsors were hosted by the Ritz-Carlton for a luncheon at which MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley talked about the state of corporate and private support for the cultural community.

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Spring/Summer 1999
Vol. 4, No. 3

McConnections

Inside

- MCCLetter**
Cultural Tourism Coordinator Named, page 2
- MCC Seeks Public Input on Agency Planning**
Latest Strategic Plan Underway, page 3
- CulturalLinks**
Listing of Opportunities, page 7
- www.massculturalcouncil.org**
Agency's Web Site Launched, page 8

Forums Examine Issues Affecting Artists' Livelihood

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has launched a series of statewide forums designed to provide artists with services, information and opportunities they need to survive and thrive.

Health care, affordable housing and live/work issues were tackled at the first of three forums – Resources for Artists/ Artists as Resources – held at the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center in March. Additional forums for 1999 are planned for Sept. 18 at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and for Oct. 16 at Jacob's Pillow in Lee. For additional details, check www.massculturalcouncil.org, the MCC web site, as those dates near.

"These forums underline the MCC's commitment to provide services, information and opportunities for Massachusetts artists," said Executive Director Mary Kelley.

*Continued on P.3**

Arts Curriculum Framework Revised

Every Massachusetts public school student should have the benefit of sequential instruction in dance, music, theater and visual arts beginning in pre-school and continuing through high school, according to draft guidelines provisionally approved by the Massachusetts Board of Education.

The newly revised Arts Curriculum Framework declares that effective arts education programs include opportunities for students to create artwork, examine the historical and cultural contexts in which art is created and draw connections between the arts and other subjects.

The framework provides guidelines for educators to design high quality Pre-K to 12th arts curriculum and classroom assessments. Under the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993, the arts were identified for the first time as part of the core curriculum for every school in the Commonwealth. The legislation also outlined an extensive reform process that includes the development of learning standards for each core subject.

*Continued on P.6**

1999 Commonwealth Award Winners

Jim Fossett



The 1999 Commonwealth Awards drew an overflow crowd to the Massachusetts State House in February. The winners were: Bradford and Barbara Washburn, interpretive science; David McCullough, humanist; Frances Gagnon and Joseph Carvalho, Springfield Library and Museums Association, cultural organization; Kay Sloan, Massachusetts College of Art, education; Clara Wainwright, community; Tina Packer, artist; Lyda Kuth, LEF Foundation, patron; and Jeremy Alliger, Dance Umbrella, organizational leadership.

Greetings!

Warm weather naturally turns our thoughts to the many events that will be happening all across the state and throughout New England over the summer. But for the international traveler, it has been a special challenge to know what they might expect to see in New England if they made the trip.

To help address this challenge we are very pleased to announce that all six New England states, the New England Foundation for the Arts and the Massachusetts Port Authority have hired Elaine Aliberti as Cultural Tourism Coordinator. Elaine will be based in the international marketing division at MassPort with Christina Pappas, Director of Destination Marketing.

Elaine comes from Boston Ballet where she was in charge of promotions for the marketing department and also served as vice president of the Boston Arts Marketing Alliance, a consortium of marketing directors from area cultural institutions. She went to college in Vermont and is already quite knowledgeable about our region and has already met with many cultural representatives here in Massachusetts. She is developing a work plan which will take her to all states for meetings with tourism and state arts agencies over the next few months.

We look forward to working with her as she gets the word out to international tour operators and travelers about our many cultural attractions.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

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Durant A. Hunter, *Boston*
Donald Melville, *Worcester*
Peter Nessen, *Boston*, Chairman
Robert Radloff, *Boston*
Sambath Rim, *Fall River*
John Spooner, *Boston*
David Starr, *Springfield*, Vice Chairman
Lisa Thorson, *Newton*
Dianne Walker, *Boston*
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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 2000 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: TBA Final Proposal: TBA
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY00 Disciplines: Choreography, Fiction, Painting, Poetry and Works on Paper Dec. 20, 1999
Media Fellowships Fall 2000 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Rolling

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec. 1, 1999
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
Mar. 15, 2000

Event & Residency Program

Nov. 1, 1999 Apr. 3, 2000

Event & Residency Roster Review

FY00 Disciplines: Design, Media Arts, Mime, Puppetry, Theater and Visual Arts Jan. 14, 2000

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct. 15, 1999

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: May 15, 2000 Full Proposal: July 14, 2000

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec. 15, 1999

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple Deadlines

Massachusetts Touring Program

Sept. 1, 1999 Dec. 1, 1999 Mar. 1, 2000
June 1, 2000 (617-951-0010)

Massachusetts Touring Program Roster Review

TBA

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan. 24, 2000 Final Proposal: Mar. 3, 2000

PASS Program

Oct. 15, 1999

PASS Program Roster Review

TBA 2001

Professional Development Program

15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

TBA 2002

YouthReach Initiative

Feb. 7, 2000



MCC Seeks Input on Future Directions

The Massachusetts Cultural Council is looking for public input on a new agency-wide strategic planning effort. The public input process was launched in January and February, when the MCC conducted a series of nine public forums in different sites across the state. The process will continue over the coming months with focus groups, interviews and surveys targeting various MCC constituents.

Public input will also be solicited through www.massculturalcouncil.org, the MCC web site. This web site will include a narrative report that details progress on each recommendation in the MCC's previous three-year plan. It will also provide a mechanism for emailing comments on the following key questions:

- ▶ What MCC programs or services have best served your organization, community or work over the last three years?
- ▶ What are the issues or challenges facing your community or region? How can they be addressed by artists and cultural organizations?
- ▶ What role should artists and cultural organizations play in Massachusetts education reform? What role should the MCC play?
- ▶ How can the MCC improve its services to you or your organization?

The new strategic plan will be drafted during the summer, with a second feedback period planned for October and November. The final plan will be published in December.

*Continued from P.1**

Artist Forums Examine Health Care, Housing

The Cambridge forum, which attracted more than 90 artists, featured representatives from Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts; Associated Grantmakers; Health Care For All; Live/Work Concerns; Mobius; Express Yourself; and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences & Humanities.

While issues can vary across the state, health care and affordable housing pose particular concern – virtually every artist at the Cambridge forum expressed anxiety over health care. Other worries singled out in a survey included balancing a job and their art work; legal issues, particularly control of rights to their work; and business concerns such as representation of artists by managers and agents, promotion and marketing.

Issues surrounding health insurance for the self-employed were the focus of a separate session for artists co-sponsored by the

Somerville and Cambridge Cultural Councils. Under Massachusetts law, the self-employed are not eligible for non-group coverage because they may purchase coverage from any insurance carrier which offers coverage to small businesses.

Reps. Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville), Alice Wolf and Jarrett Barrios (D-Cambridge) provided background on the decision and pointed to a potential benefit in that no one can be turned down for coverage, even with pre-existing medical conditions. The legislators also fielded questions from the audience, and all three representatives (who favor a universal health care plan, funded from general revenues), appeared open to amending future insurance legislation to give the self-employed the option of individual coverage. ■

State Budget Process Underway

The state budget process for fiscal year 2000 is now in full swing. The Massachusetts Cultural Council is seeking a \$20.7 million state appropriation in FY2000 – a \$3.4 million increase over FY99. The increase would be used to support the growth of a number of MCC grant programs that use culture – the arts, sciences and humanities – to build stronger, more livable communities. The request continues the effort to rebuild the MCC's state appropriation, which was cut from a high of \$27 million in 1988 to a low of \$3.5 million in 1992.

The current budget process began in January, when Governor Cellucci recommended an increase of \$850,000 for the MCC. Most of the increase was allocated to two MCC after-school programs (YouthReach and Science in the Community) as part of a new initiative for "Safe and Healthy After-School Programs." In the next two months, the House and Senate will each produce their own FY2000 budget recommendations, then meet in conference committee to reconcile their differences. A final spending plan is expected by the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Folklorist Joins MCC

The MCC is launching an ambitious program to survey, catalog and extend the MCC's contact with and support of folk and traditional artists and groups in the state.

Maggie Holtzberg joins the MCC as Folk Arts Coordinator. She was most recently Director of the Georgia Council for the Arts Folklife Program. Holtzberg has curated exhibits, directed a film and produced radio programs as part of her work in the folk arts field.

This program is being launched as part of a National Endowment for the Arts Folk and Traditional Arts Infrastructure Initiative Grant to the MCC and will become a permanent part of the agency.



Michael Brady
Program Officer

Artists

The MCC recently approved recommendations for **Artist Grants** in Crafts, Photography, Sculpture, Music Composition and Playwriting/New Theater Works. The awards of \$7,500 will go to a number of artists in each category; finalists receive \$1,000. In 2000, the MCC will award Artist Grants in Painting, Works on Paper, Choreography, Fiction and Poetry.

Also this year, 13 new artists were added to the Massachusetts Touring Roster in the Music category. This Touring Roster is now available online at the MCC's web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org.

The MCC web site also features work of several Artist Grant recipients, as well as timely information on a range of opportunities for individual artists.

On Wednesday, June 23, the MCC will hold a Slide Showcase at the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center. The work of the 1999 Artist Grants recipients will be presented along with the work of nearly 600 other applicants. The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Kelly Bennett at the MCC (x349).

New England Artists' Trust is sponsoring a biennial Artist Congress in New Haven June 17 - 20. This fifth Artist Congress will provide a forum for artists to learn, perform, and share experiences, with sessions on the career challenges facing artists in areas such as affordable housing and live/work issues, health care, facing an IRS audit and seeking direct grants and commissions. MCC staff will be there and available to meet with artists on June 19. Contact: Mary Ann Ott at 203-772-2788 or www.artistscongress.org.

The work of Dean Nimmer, a 1996 Artist Grant recipient in Works on Paper, is currently on display in the MCC office at 120 Boylston Street. MCC office hours are 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday.



Ricardo Barreto
Program Officer

Beate Klein Becker
Program Manager, CED

Organizations

A total of 297 organizations submitted applications this spring for the **Organizational Support Program**, the MCC's core program for funding cultural organizations across the state. Those recommended for funding will join the 322 organizations already in multi-year funding cycles for FY2000 grant support. Panels will review applications early in the summer; the funding recommendations will be compiled and forwarded to the MCC board for approval in August; then organizations will be notified of the results in September. Disciplines in the full cycle review for three years of funding include Design, Historical Museums and Societies, Literature, Media Arts, Presenting/Sponsoring Organizations & Festivals, Science and Service Organizations. The review of these groups will include a site evaluation. All other disciplines will be reviewed by mid-cycle multidisciplinary panels, which recommend one or two years of funding.

Organizations currently on multi-year grants, which are scheduled to receive a second or third year of funding in OS, are reminded that their audits or end-of-the-year financial statements are due as soon

InsideOut

as they are available. Without these, an interim narrative and a final report (see Admin. & Finance column on facing page) funds cannot be released for FY00 grants.

This year also sees the second application cycle for the **Science in the Community Initiative**. Part of the MCC's Science Literacy Initiative, these projects receive support in three-year cycles and are designed to encourage science education in after-school settings through collaborations and partnerships for youth K-12. Fourteen projects submitted applications in March, 10 of which received funding in the first cycle of this program.

This winter, the **Cultural Economic Development Program** launched a new funding cycle that introduced some important changes in the program. New guidelines emphasize partnership projects that use culture to create increased employment, new business enterprises and other income-generating activities. CED will be reviewing new applications twice a year and multi-year grants will be made on an annual renewable basis.

To help provide ongoing policy guidance and project support, CED formed an Advisory Committee that will also serve as a standing review panel. In addition to three MCC board members, committee members include Elyse Cherry, President of the Boston Community Venture Fund; Don Law of the Don Law Companies; Alvaro Lima of the Boston Advisors/Initiative for a Competitive Inner City; and Patricia Pedreira of the Vermont Arts Exchange.



Carol Guidice
Program Officer

Education

The active involvement of key community members is identified as the single most critical factor to sustaining a school district's arts education program in a new study of districts across the nation.

According to *Gaining the Arts Advantage: Lessons from School Districts that Value Arts Education*, among the important elements needed for a district to grow and sustain quality arts education programs is a school board, superintendent and principals who strongly support arts education policies. Equally important, parents, business and civic leaders, artists and arts organizations must regularly advocate for arts programs and instruction. The study found districts with strong programs have incorporated arts education into their overall educational goals and actively work with community organizations to secure other resources.

The study selected 91 school districts to participate in the two-year study, including four in Massachusetts – Chelmsford, Lexington, Masconomet Regional (Topsfield area) and Wayland. Brief profiles of each are presented in the report.

Jointly produced by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and Arts Education Partnership, *Gaining the Arts Advantage* is available online at www.pcah.gov or by calling the PCAH publications hotline at 202-682-5540.

Schools interested in bringing in professional artists to work with their students

should check out the MCC's web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org. Both the **Event & Residency Program** and **PASS Program** Rosters are now available online.



Lisa Hergenrother
Program Officer

Communities

The MCC has approved more than 7,000 grants worth more than \$4.2 million to meet the arts, sciences and humanities priorities of cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

The **Local Cultural Council Program** grants were approved in March after a process that begins with the acceptance of applications by the 335 LCCs that serve every Massachusetts community. The all-volunteer local councils – the largest grassroots network of its kind in the nation – process and review the requests before submitting them to the MCC in December.

The fiscal 1999 grants include \$3.5 million for standard LCC allocations across the traditional range of disciplines. Approximately three-quarters of the grants go for music, theater or multidisciplinary events. \$630,000 is being directed to the PASS Program that defrays the cost of cultural field trips for students. \$140,000 was approved for proposals originated by LCCs to meet particular local needs.

This is the last time many LCCs will be required to go through this process. The board also approved plans to streamline the application system to reduce bureaucratic steps and get the money into the field faster (see related story on page 8).



Mary McCarthy
Director of Administration & Finance

Admin. & Finance

As we near the end of our fiscal year 1999, please remember that final reports will soon be due. Individuals receiving Professional Development grants need to submit a final report within 30 days of the conference or class they attended. Schools receiving Event & Residency grants need to send in their final report within 30 days of the end of the project. Organizational Support final reports are due between July 1 and July 30. All other final reports are due 30 days after the end of the program or by July 30. **Failure to meet the July 30, 1999, deadline will result in the default of the contract and reversion of any final grant money owed.**

A final report is still required to verify expenditures of every grant. No further grant payments on any contract will be made until a final report is submitted to the MCC. At that point, eligibility to receive future MCC grants will be reassessed.

A reminder notice will be sent to grantees at the beginning of June. This notice will alert grantees of the upcoming final report deadline and will include a copy of the required report. Please contact Stephen Spiridakis (x256) if you need a copy of your final report before that mailing. Questions about the content of the final report should be directed to Cyndy Gaviglio (x332).

Due to the volume of final reports received at the end of July, grantees may want to submit their report early in the month to receive their final payment more quickly.

Arts Curriculum Framework Draft Under Review

"By adopting rigorous content standards in the arts, the state Board of Education is saying that these disciplines are essential to every child's education," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

"It challenges schools to find new ways to incorporate a wide variety of arts experiences into their curriculum."

The new arts framework also reinforces the value of those arts disciplines most often under-represented in schools – dance and theater. The 1997 National Assessment of Educational Progress in the arts revealed that 90 percent of the 6,000 eighth graders taking the test nationwide had no dance curriculum in their school and 85 percent had no theater curriculum.

Developed by a committee of practicing artists, arts teachers and representatives from higher education, the Arts Curriculum Framework includes four basic components:

Core Concept – overall vision for the framework which states that the arts are an essential part of any student's education.

Guiding Principles – underlying beliefs about what makes an effective education in the arts and the basis for the framework.

Strands – major sections of the framework that specify what information students should know and what skills students should be able to perform in dance, music, theater and visual arts.

Learning Standards – series of statements of what students should know and be able to do in each arts discipline. These are broken down by grade span (Pre-K to Grade 4, Grades 5-8, Grades 9-12).

The Strands and Learning Standards sections are further divided into:

The Arts Disciplines Strand – specific learning standards for dance, music, theater and visual arts education.

The Arts in Context: History and Criticism Strand – learning standards regarding the arts and artists over time and from different cultures. It includes listings of major artists and artistic periods that connect directly to the state History and Social Science frame-

work and provides numerous opportunities for cross-disciplinary discussions.

Connections Strand – one standard focused on linking learning in the arts with learning in other subject areas, such as math, science and English.

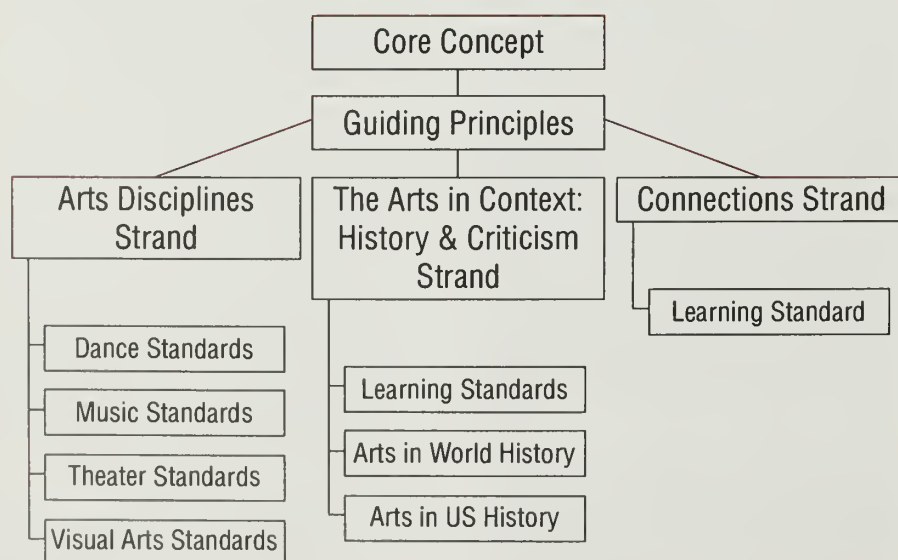
The draft framework recognizes the important role that artists and cultural organizations can play in schools, pointing to the value of students working directly with artists and attending performances and museums. In particular, the Connections Strand stresses the need for students to make links between the arts and other disciplines and with cultural resources in their community.

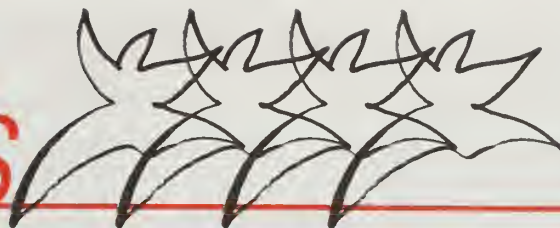
"An interdisciplinary curriculum allows students to explore learning as a process through a variety of shared experiences that integrate knowledge, content and skill," said Kelley. "This, in turn, reflects the real world, where learning happens through a series of interrelated experiences."

Following a public comment period, the final arts framework will likely be adopted in late June and implemented next fall in conjunction with the frameworks for English Language Arts, Foreign Languages, Health, History and Social Science, Mathematics and Science and Technology.

If you would like to review and offer feedback on the draft arts framework, contact Susan Wheltle at the Department of Education at 781-388-3300 x239 or via email at swheltle@doe.mass.edu. You can also download a copy from the DOE web site at www.doe.mass.edu. ■

Arts Curriculum Framework





CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

New England Nonprofit Quarterly presents its 5th annual leadership conference June 17-18 at the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston. Seminars in management, development, marketing, technology and more. Contact: 800-281-7770; www.newenglandnonprofit.org

"Connecting Art and Community," sponsored by UMASS's Art Extension Service, offers three tracks of arts management training. June 17-19, in Northampton. Contact: 413-545-2360; aes@admin.umass.edu; www.umass.edu/aes

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project offers "Advanced Facility Project Planning," covering all aspects of facility planning June 24-25. "Facility Project Feasibility Clinic," reviewing the viability of specific projects, is scheduled for July 23. Contact: 617-727-8447

Call for Entries

Northampton Film Festival, Nov. 4-8, seeks entries of features, shorts, documentaries, animation and experimental films and videos. June 30 deadline. Send SASE to: Northampton Film Associates, 351 Pleasant St. #137, Northampton, MA 01060; 413-586-3471

Save Outdoor Sculpture! recognizes achievements in the fields of sculpture preservation and awareness through the SOS! Achievement Awards. July 15 deadline. SOS! also provides cash awards for the assessment and conservation treatment of public

outdoor sculpture across the US. Nov. 30 deadline. Contact: 888-767-7285

Repertorio Espanol seeks unproduced, full length plays in English or Spanish focusing on the Hispanic experience and/or of interest to the Hispanic community. Sept. 15 postmark deadline. Contact: Allison at 212-889-2850

The Spertus Prize is a biennial competition for the creation of Jewish ceremonial art. This year's art object is a Torah covering. Open to artists of all nationalities and religions. Dec. 30 deadline. Contact: Spertus Prize Competition, 618 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605; musm@spertus.edu; www.spertus.edu

Funding

Association of Performing Arts Presenters provides travel assistance through the Dance Travel Assistance Program to support travel by presenters to see dance performances. Aug. 25 deadline. Contact: Huong Vu at 202-833-2787

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation provides fellowship grants averaging \$31,683 to artists and writers in all fields except the performing arts. Send SASE to: Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 90 Park Ave., NY, NY 10016; 212-687-4470; fellowships@gf.org; www.gf.org/index.html

New England Folk Festival Association provides grants, loans and risk-sharing opportunities available to projects that preserve folk traditions in New England, encourage the development of a living folk culture and encourage high standards of quality and performance in the folk arts. Contact: www.ultranet.com/~neffa/grants.html

Residencies

Contemporary Artists Center offers artists' residencies and exhibition opportunities near MASS MoCA in the Berkshires. Huge studio spaces, "Monster Press" printmaking and discussions/lectures/performance are available. Contact: CAC, Historic Beaver Mill, 189 Beaver St., North Adams, MA 01247; 413-663-9555; cacart@together.net; www.cacart.org

Vermont Studio Center offers year-round 4- to 12-week residencies in painting, sculpture, printmaking, mixed media, photography, poetry, fiction and nonfiction. Full fellowship deadlines: Three per year. Contact: Kathy Black, PO Box 613, Johnson, VT 05656; 802-635-2727; www.vermontstudiocenter.com

US/Japan Creative Artists' Program provides 6-month residencies in Japan for individual creative artists in any discipline. June 28 deadline. Contact: Japan/US Friendship Commission, 1120 Vermont Ave. NW, Ste 925, Washington, DC 20005; 202-275-7712; jusfc@compuserv.com

Resources

Artists' Health Insurance Resource Center, a nationwide information resource for the arts community created by Actors' Fund of America, provides artists and arts organizations with information to help them obtain health insurance. Contact: AHIRC, 729 7th Ave., 10th fl. NY, NY 10019; 800-798-8447. www.actorsfund.org

Monthly Bulletin lists nationwide entry level and early career staff openings for visual artists, arts educators and arts administrators. 250+ listings per month. By subscription. Contact: Artists, PO Box 40550, Washington, DC 20016; 703-506-4400

Internet Nonprofit Center, a project of the Evergreen State Society of Seattle, WA, offers information for and about nonprofit organizations in the US. Contact: www.nonprofits.org

Local Cultural Council Approval Process Streamlined

The new fiscal year will bring with it a new structure designed to speed the flow of funds to local cultural councils. The launch of the streamlined approval process fulfills a key component of a Massachusetts Cultural Council strategic plan.

"This change will significantly reduce the amount of time it takes to get funding into local applicants' hands and provides incentives for LCCs to improve their operations," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "It will also retain a high level of accountability on how these dollars are spent."

Under the new structure, LCCs with sound local procedures, a history of member training and a track record of meeting MCC approval guidelines will receive funds earlier in the year. The "pre-approval" process is designed to reduce the long delay – currently more than six months – between the time applicants' request a grant from local coun-

cils and when they can be reimbursed. The new system also focuses more on the big picture of how LCCs operate than on the specific details of every single application that an LCC funds.

The old system required that all locally approved applications undergo a second tier of review by the MCC, regardless of the history of a particular local cultural council. That has led to the release of funds in March or April. Under streamlining, a council can receive funding in December or January if it has:

- ▶ Demonstrated knowledge of LCC program requirements.
- ▶ Sound local administration of the grant making process.
- ▶ Participated in training offered by MCC.

LCCs that fail to meet these criteria will continue to have their applications reviewed at the state level, with the release of funds in

March or April. But the MCC will also continue to provide technical assistance tools and resources, including the regionally based field representatives and standardized "basics" workshops, to expand the number of "streamlined" LCCs.

The MCC is online

Check out:

www.massculturalcouncil.org

Program Descriptions

Funding Lists

Sample Projects

Program Deadlines

Guidelines

Program FAQs

Expanded Opportunities Listing

Event & Residency Roster

PASS Roster

Mass. Touring Roster

Agency Newsletters

Upcoming MCC Events

Press Releases

Staff Contact Info

This is Only the Beginning.

Jim Fossett



Visitors arriving at Boston's Logan International Airport are now greeted by a billboard promoting the state's cultural attractions. The six New England states, the New England Foundation for the Arts and the Massachusetts Port Authority are teaming up to promote the region's cultural wealth with the hiring of a cultural tourism coordinator (see page 2).

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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Vol. 5, No. 1

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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Looking Back, Looking Ahead, page 2

YouthReach-Funded Group Wins Natl. Honor
MCC Program Coming Up Taller Again, page 3

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

1999 Artist Grants Recipients Named

Grants to State's Exceptional Artists, page 8

Cultural Facilities Need Outlined to Legislature

A \$35 million bill to assist Massachusetts cultural organizations with an estimated \$500 million in deferred maintenance received a strong endorsement from a broad cross-section of leaders during a State House hearing.

"I thought I would come to America to introduce Shakespeare to the masses, but I spend most of my time dealing with sewer and septic systems," Tina Packer, Artistic Director of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox told the Legislature's Taxation Committee.

The legislation to create a \$35 million Cultural and Regional Tourism Fund would support the maintenance and renovation of small- and medium-sized organizations across the Commonwealth. It would be split between the Massachusetts Cultural

Continued on P.6

MCC Awards \$16.2 Million for FY2000

Massachusetts artists, cultural organizations, schools and local cultural councils serving thousands of Bay State residents will share in the \$16.2 million in grants distributed for fiscal 2000 by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

The grants are part of an \$18.3 million budget approved by the Massachusetts Legislature in mid-November. Lawmakers included \$750,000 in the Department of Education budget for the MCC's after-school programs.

"This budget will enable us to continue our investments in the cultural and educational resources of the Commonwealth," said MCC Board Chairman Peter Nessen. "We take great pride that our grants serve as a catalyst for additional investments by the public, private and philanthropic communities."

The largest portion of the budget was targeted for the Organizational Support Program. More than \$6.9 million in three-year grants will assist more than 500 not-for-profit cultural organizations of all types and sizes across the state. The groups share a track record of excellence and community service.

An additional \$3.9 million was allocated to the 335 local cultural councils that serve every community in the state – the largest grassroots program for local aid to the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in the nation. This includes funding for the PASS Program that assists schools with the cost of cultural field trips for students from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

This was supplemented by \$204,442 for the LCC Matching Incentive Program, which provides additional dollars for communities that raise funds from their municipalities or private donors. Forty-four LCCs raised \$509,214, with the majority of applicants from smaller cities and towns with LCC allocations of less than \$10,000.

Artists will also be among the beneficiaries of the new budget, which calls for an increased allocation for individual Artist Grants awarded for excellence in 10 disciplines. The new awards will enable artists to pursue their work in choreography, fiction, poetry, painting and works on paper.

The MCC will also add resources to the new Folk and Traditional Arts Initiative that has begun cataloguing the depth and breadth of the state's folk cultural resources. The spending plan also contains up to \$472,742 for the Event & Residency Program that brings artists into the classroom for periods ranging from one to 75 days.

"I'm particularly delighted we are able to recognize and reward the accomplishments of artists who are the centerpiece of the state's cultural life," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

Continued on P.3

The new year (and millennium) is an opportune time to reflect on successes and look toward future challenges for the cultural community.

1999 will be remembered for some significant achievements, including the creation of a new curriculum framework that defined the important role of the arts in education. The year also saw progress in raising the visibility of arts and culture as important components of improving the quality of life in our communities. The MCC appropriation went from \$3.5 million in 1992 to \$18.3 million in the budget recently approved by the Legislature.

The year 2000 brings with it opportunities to build upon those gains. The Massachusetts Cultural Council, working with other New England arts agencies, the New England Council and the New England Foundation for the Arts, is embarking on a project to document the importance of the cultural and creative sector as a regional industry. The results of the first phase of this initiative will be announced to the press Feb. 22 and will include figures from both the not-for-profit and commercial sectors.

In the coming year we will continue to highlight the importance of the work of artists and cultural organizations, and we will work to serve you better. Happy New Year!


Executive Director

MCCconnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCconnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout: Dawn Heinen.



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Web: www.massculturalcouncil.org

MCC Board

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Nancy Jane Fitzpatrick, *Stockbridge*
Walter Frazee, *Fall River*
Marc Futter, *Northampton*
Durant A. Hunter, *Boston*
Donald Melville, *Worcester*
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Nov. 1, 1999 Apr. 3, 2000

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TBA 2001

Professional Development Program

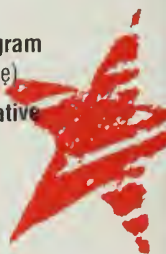
15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

TBA 2002

YouthReach Initiative

Feb. 7, 2000



MCC YouthReach Initiative Coming Up Taller, Again

For the second straight year, a Massachusetts Cultural Council YouthReach grant recipient – Angkor Dance Troupe of Lowell – has been selected for the prestigious “Coming Up Taller” Award from the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities. Each year the awards are presented to a select group of 10 organizations across the nation, to honor exemplary arts programs serving at-risk youth.

In addition, three other MCC-supported programs were named as national semi-

finalists: Raw Art Works, Lynn; Artists for Humanity, Boston; and the Boston Photo Collaborative. The first two are YouthReach grant recipients; the third receives funding through the MCC’s Organizational Support Program. Last year, PAH! Deaf Youth Theatre was recognized for the award.

“This recognition confirms the fact that Massachusetts is a national leader in using the arts, sciences and humanities to transform lives and build better communities,” said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

Angkor Dance Troupe is an after-school and summer program for Cambodian young people in Lowell where they learn a rich, lively repertoire of traditional Cambodian folk and classical dance.

“There are lots of ways of showing pride in your culture – both positive and negative,” said Malachie Hul, 16, who lives in the heart of gang territory and was on the verge of joining before he found the Troupe. “The Khmer dances are a positive way and a beautiful art for people to cherish.”

Angkor is at the forefront of Lowell’s citywide campaign to curb gang involvement and gang-related violence and is considered an integral part of Lowell’s designation as a 1999 All-American City.

“If I didn’t get off the streets, I’d probably end up dead or in jail,” said Angkor dancer and former gang member Mony Srey, 16.

Two of last year’s semi-finalists repeated that honor. Artists for Humanity enables inner-city teens to develop marketable skills in a disciplined and safe environment. The Boston Photo Collaborative addresses employment and life skills issues through efforts that give many teens their first paying job or the opportunity to gain business and photography skills at the same time.

New to the recognition this year is Raw Art, including RAWChiefs, a mentor program in which teens learn to help younger children examine assumptions about themselves, creativity and the trust of others.

The recognition comes at the culmination of a year in which YouthReach received the first annual Innovation Award from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

Applications for fiscal year 2000 YouthReach funding are due Feb. 7. Contact the MCC at 800-232-0960 for guidelines.

Continued from P.1 *

\$16.2 Million in Grants Allocated

The budget also reaffirmed and extended commitments to four signature programs – Science in the Community, Education Partnership Initiative, YouthReach and the Cultural Economic Development Program.

The nationally acclaimed YouthReach program will distribute \$805,755 for after-school programs that use the arts to reach at-risk youth across the state. This will continue existing projects prior to the next round of applications for fiscal 2001.

MCC’s Science in the Community Initiative provides three-year grants for out-of-school programs that improve scientific literacy, excite interest in the sciences, promote critical thinking, encourage self-esteem and build career awareness. The \$357,480 will fund 12 projects across the state, including new programs in Boston and Manomet.

The Education Partnership Initiative provides three-year grants to coalitions of cultural organizations, school districts, artists and other community groups to develop partnerships that permanently integrate the arts, humanities and sciences in schools’ curricula. The latest cycle provides \$718,612 to

fund 13 grants, including new projects in New Bedford, Pittsfield, Beverly and Marlboro-Hudson.

The Cultural Economic Development Program will use \$325,000 to fund new projects in Provincetown and New Bedford and existing projects in Boston, Holyoke and Great Barrington. Another round of grants will be awarded in January.

The budget contains another \$1 million for the second year of an Endowment Grant Program to assist cultural organizations considering the creation or expansion of endowments. The program awarded 18 grants in its first year.

The MCC also extended its partnership relationship with the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, which brings the humanities into the community; the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education, which promotes arts education throughout the Commonwealth; the New England Foundation for the Arts; and VSA arts of Massachusetts, which administers the Americans with Disabilities Act Mini-Grants Program. ■

MCC Readies Strategic Plan for Public Input

Over the last 10 months the Massachusetts Cultural Council has been engaged in a comprehensive series of public forums, discussions and fact-finding efforts focused on the development of a new five-year strategic plan. With input from almost 2,000 constituents across the state, the MCC's Strategic Planning Committee and staff are in the process of developing a draft of a new long range plan.

The MCC intends to circulate this draft of the plan in early 2000 for a further round of public comment. Input will eventually be collected through focus groups, public forums and the MCC's web site (www.massculturalcouncil.org).



OS Information Sessions Scheduled Across the State

Information sessions for the Organizational Support Program, which offers general operating support to cultural organizations, are scheduled from Jan. 25 to Feb. 10, in Boston, Worcester, Brewster, New Bedford, Lowell, Gloucester, Brookline and Pittsfield. These gatherings help applicants prepare for the March 3 deadline by highlighting the key elements of the current OS guidelines and providing hints for successful grantwriting and the assembly of all support materials. Time is set aside for discussion and comments, which provides an opportunity to get answers to questions and also to learn about what is on the minds of other administrators in various fields. Visit the MCC web site for details, or call the MCC at 800-232-0960.

Folk & Traditional Arts Initiative Field Work Begins Statewide

The MCC has begun to survey the state's folk cultural resources through the Folk & Traditional Arts Initiative. Among the traditional arts to be documented are those creative expressions that are deeply rooted within specific cultural communities. Examples include traditional music and dance, such as Cape Breton fiddling, Cape Verdean mornas and Cambodian rice harvesting dances; Wampanoag legends; folk crafts ranging from small boat building and decoy carving to pounded ash baskets, needlework and stone wall building. Also of importance are traditional art forms associated with seasonal and religious festivals, such as Asian water festivals or Italian or Portuguese feast day celebrations.

Five folklorists are working on the survey, initially targeting western Massachusetts, Worcester County, the southeastern part of the state and Metrowest. The staff will supplement that effort with additional fieldwork in eastern Massachusetts.

We welcome leads, particularly on traditional artists, ethnic clubs and associations and local folklife traditions. Contact Maggie Holtzberg at 800-232-0960.

LCC Program Represented at Statewide MA Municipal Meeting

The MCC will have an expanded presence at this year's Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show at the Boston Marriott Hotel/Copley Place. In addition to a booth offering infor-

mation about our programs and services, MCC staff will make a presentation about community cultural activities on Friday, Jan. 28 at 4 p.m. in the Harvard Room. LCC members: Please let your municipal officials and employees know that MCC staff will be in attendance at the conference and urge them to attend the informational session.



Targeting International Markets for Cultural Tourism

A new Cultural Tourism Coordinator is working with MassPort, the six New England state arts agencies and New England Foundation for the Arts to promote the region's cultural offerings to the international tourist market. Since she began in May, Elaine Aliberti has produced specialized cultural materials for use in international trade shows; planned familiarization tours for foreign press; and is creating a manual to help New England cultural institutions attract and serve the international visitor market.

MCC Offers First Time Home-buyers Class for Artists

Space may still be available for the First Time Home Buyers' Class for Artists, a new initiative sponsored by the MCC. The class is open to any artist who wants to purchase a home in Boston. Non-Boston residents are also welcome to participate. Successful completion of the class can result in substantial assistance from the City of Boston in down payment and closing costs.

The class will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9 p.m., Jan. 11 to Feb. 8, at the Metro-

politan Boston Housing Partnership, 569 Columbus Ave. The cost is \$25 per artist.

If you would like to participate, please contact Michael Brady, Program Officer for Artists at 800-232-0960 x354 or michael.brady@art.state.ma.us.

Elder Arts Training Opportunities Enter Third Year

The Elder Arts Initiative launched its third year of training for artists and service providers with two Introductory Training Seminars and two Mentored Project Programs. A November seminar in the Boston area will be followed by a March 13-17 seminar in the Holyoke area. No prior experience is necessary to register for the seminar.

National Report Cites Benefits of In- and Out-of-School Arts Ed

Champions of Change: the Impact of the Arts on Learning compiles the results of seven major studies which provide evidence that the arts can improve academic performance, re-invigorate teachers and transform learning situations. The research, conducted for the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities and the Arts Education Partnership included students, educators, artists and others in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco.

Among other findings, the studies indicate:

- ▶ Students with high levels of arts participation outperform students with limited arts experiences on virtually every measure.
- ▶ Students involved in arts experiences develop critical thinking skills and view

The initiative also includes a Mentored Project Program, which provides guidance in designing and implementing a 12-week arts residency with an elder community. Partnerships between artists and service providers receive mentoring in collaboration, communication and creative process adaptations throughout the 12-week program with Peter DiMuro, associate artistic director of Liz Lerman Dance Exchange.

One mentored program began in Boston in September. A second series, based in Holyoke, will begin Jan. 21.

A symposium, open to anyone interested in learning about using art in working with elders, is scheduled for March 18 at the Boston Center for Adult Education. Contact Paula Rais at 800-232-0960 x401 or prais53@aol.com.

learning as an important outcome in and of itself.

- ▶ The arts have a measurable impact on students in high-poverty and urban settings.
- ▶ After-school programs that focus on the arts help at-risk youth achieve more in both school and their personal lives.
- ▶ Learning through the arts has significant effects on learning in other subjects.
- ▶ The arts enable educators to reach students in effective ways and deepen learning across many disciplines.

Copies are available by sending an e-mail request to pcah@neh.gov. A PDF version of the report is available at <http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/champions/>.



Taskforce Examining New England's "Creative Economy"

The New England arts agencies, together with the New England Council and NEFA, have hired Mount Auburn Associates to spearhead a major study of the cultural sector as a significant regional industry. The first phase of the research to be released in February will broaden the definition of the cultural sector beyond not-for-profit organizations to include commercial enterprises, artists, and higher education and public institutions. Throughout the spring, each state will host a meeting to focus attention on local models of cultural development. The goal of the project is to develop regional and national policies that result in increased public and private investment in the cultural sector.

FY2000 Contracts Due

New contracts for this fiscal year have been mailed to Education Partnership, fall Event & Residency, Organizational Support, Science in the Community and YouthReach grantees. Please return your contract to the MCC office by the due date (found on the contract's cover sheet or at www.massculturalcouncil.org/contracts.html). Contact Cyndy Gaviglio at cyndy.gaviglio@art.state.ma.us or 800-232-0960 x332 with any questions.

YouthReach Consultations

Groups planning to apply to the YouthReach Feb. 7 deadline are urged to contact H. Mark Smith (800-232-0960 x253 or mark.smith@art.state.ma.us) as soon as possible. He can provide a detailed overview of the guidelines and application process, make available past applications for review, and consult on the match between your program plans and the goals of this funding initiative.

Cultural Facilities Maintenance Needs Aired to Legislature

Council and MassDevelopment. Funds would be used for capital grants and loans to not-for-profit cultural facilities.

The not-for-profit cultural community in Massachusetts has a \$2.56 billion annual economic impact, employs more than 45,000 people and generates \$17 million per year in state taxes. More than 45 million people attend cultural events each year and annual attendance at just three of Boston's museums – the Museum of Fine Arts, Science Museum and New England Aquarium – surpasses the total combined attendance of the Red Sox, Bruins and Celtics.

"The data is impressive, but not-for-profit cultural institutions cannot maintain this important contribution to the state's economy if their facilities are allowed to fall into disrepair," said MCC Chair Peter Nessen.

"The quality of the [cultural] attractions within the state effectively cloaks the reality that the infrastructure supporting them is crumbling," added Rep. Peter Larkin (D-Pittsfield), the bill's co-sponsor. "The reality is that it is easier for these attractions to pursue an aggressive capital campaign for a new wing or a new building than to raise dollars to repair the roofing or plumbing systems."

Adding to the importance of sound facilities is the reality that almost 30 percent of paid admissions to Massachusetts cultural events were from out-of-state visitors, reflecting the major role cultural organizations play in making Massachusetts an attractive international tourist destination.

"To preserve and conserve the many buildings that are used on a daily basis to convey the early years of our nation is one of our most significant responsibilities and challenges," said William Reid, director of development and membership at Old Sturbridge Village, a magnet for tourism in central and western Massachusetts.

"On an annual basis the museum devotes approximately \$1 million to the general maintenance, repair and refurbishment of these important structures. This bill, and the funds it provides for cultural facilities, could be of great assistance to museums like Old Sturbridge Village with expensive deferred maintenance."

Cultural organizations also play important roles in improving the quality of life for Massachusetts residents, especially schoolchildren.

Boston's Children's Museum, for example, serves 450,000 visitors and program participants annually – and another 250,000 students and teachers use their books and resources. One of the largest cultural institutions in the Commonwealth, it suffers from inadequate entry, orientation and lunch spaces for summer campers and has only a

freight elevator for visitors who can't take the stairs or have strollers.

But Executive Director Louis Casagrande said efforts to raise funds for these needs often bring the response from the corporate sector that "infrastructure is a public expense."

Operating the three-building Boston Center for the Arts complex requires as much attention to facilities maintenance as to the quality of the artistic opportunity, said Director Susan Hartnett.

She noted the center, which is home to 14 arts organizations and provides below market-rate studios to 50 working artists, has already conducted a capital campaign to replace the 80-year-old roof and dome of the historic Cyclorama and bring the facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

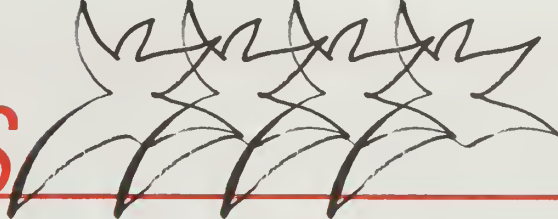
MCC Endowment Grants Available

The Massachusetts Cultural Council is accepting applications for the second year of its Endowment Grant Program to help cultural organizations in the Commonwealth launch or expand endowments. Pre-application drafts are due Feb. 21 with full proposals due by March 24.

The MCC made 18 grants in the first year of the program designed to help not-for-profit groups considering the creation or expansion of permanent endowments. The application process requires organizations to articulate their endowment goals in the context of other financial needs. Successful applicants demonstrated a track record of financial stability, a strong fundraising capacity, adequate resources to deal with cyclical cash flow needs and sufficient resources to carry out their programs and maintain their facilities.

"We're really trying to help organizations think strategically about ways to strengthen their own balance sheets," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "Endowments are not the answer for everyone – but we hope that the assessment process itself is useful for all applicants."

A total of 59 applications were received from among 500 eligible organizations. The program provides a maximum of \$100,000 with a minimum 2-1 matching requirement. Organizations have up to 24 months to raise the matching funds. For more information on the initial grantees, check the MCC web site at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/press_room/archives/990604.html. To receive guidelines, contact Deb Keller at 800-232-0960 x269.



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

Clearing the Path: Arts and Accessibility in New England will showcase model approaches to accessibility. Sessions will include workshops on accessibility practices and policies, addressing resource and funding issues, technology and universal design. March 1-3 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, Cambridge. Contact: New England Foundation for the Arts; 617-951-0010 (Voice/TTY)

13th Annual Mass. Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism will discuss strategic planning, hospitality, technology and packaging. April 6-7 at the Sheraton Ferncroft, Danvers. Contact: Mary Hayes at 617-973-8511

Amherst Writers & Artists Institute offers a 4-day intensive training in leading creative writing workshops for under-served populations, such as low-income women and teenagers, bereavement groups, participants in recovery programs, etc. April 14-17, May 5-8, July 14-17 in the Amherst/Chicopee area. Contact: AWAI at 413-253-0510; awai@unidial.com

New England Museum Association offers professional development workshops throughout New England in grant writing, collections care and strategies for museums. Contact: 617-242-2283; www.nemanet.org

Call for Entries

AIM for Arts, a September/October 2000 international "open" juried painting exhibition in Vancouver, Canada, offers \$50,000 Cdn. in cash prizes. March 31 deadline. The pro-

spectus/details are found on the Federation of Canadian Artists' web site: www.artists.ca

Clauder Competition seeks unproduced, full-length plays from New England playwrights. New England college students are also eligible. Sept. 1 deadline. Contact: Clauder Competition at 781-322-3187

Funding

NFAA Astral Career Grants are available to composers, choreographers, pianists, vocalists and ballet dancers who need timely financial assistance in order to take advantage of a specific career opportunity. March 1 and June 1 deadlines. Contact: 800-970-ARTS; nfaa@nfaa.org; www.nfaa.org

MA Documentary Heritage Grant Program funds projects that promote and result in the documentation, preservation and use of historical records in Massachusetts. March 1 and Aug. 1 deadlines. Contact: Documentary Heritage Staff at 617-727-2816; www.state.ma.us/sec/arc/arcaac/aacintro.htm

Alliance Charitable Fund is an innovative funding source for non-profit organizations. Members of the Alliance's Connection Program (including real estate, insurance, mortgage and moving companies) pledge a portion of their commission or fee to support non-profits. Because it is the consumer who chooses a non-profit to benefit, the opportunity to obtain a grant exists every time an organization or one of its supporters uses these businesses. Contact: Deborah Stein at 617-426-7000; mail@alliancefund.org; www.alliancefund.org

Afterschool.gov lists federal funding opportunities for after-school programs. The site includes a searchable database of more than 100 grant and loan programs, resources and web sites for kids and teens. Contact: www.afterschool.gov

Residencies

Djerassi Resident Artists Program awards residencies to artists in the disciplines of choreography, literature, music composition, visual arts and media arts/new genres. Four-to five-week sessions; located in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Feb. 15 deadline. Applications can be obtained at www.djerassi.org

Chamber Music Rural Residencies Program partners a community and an ensemble to enrich the community's cultural life while creating growth opportunities for the ensemble. Applications are being accepted from presenters, festivals or training institutions wishing to host a residency in their community. April 7 intent deadline; July 7 final deadline. Contact: Nancy Christensen at 212-242-2022 x113; nchristensen@chamber-music.org

Resources

Free information on publishing is available to writers from "Poets & Writers," including advice and additional resources on agents, copyright, grants, writing related employment and how to protect yourself and your work against fraud. Contact: Poets & Writers at 212-226-3586 x514.

Art & Science Collaborations is an international not-for-profit arts organization in New York whose purpose is to raise public awareness of artists by using science and technology to explore new forms of creative expression, and to build bridges between the fields of art and science. Contact: www.asci.org

Job Bulletin, published by New England Conservatory, lists 200 jobs worldwide each month in performance, teaching and arts administration. For a complimentary copy, contact the Career Services Center at 617-585-1118; careerservices@newenglandconservatory.edu

1999 Artist Grants Recipients and Finalists Named

This summer, 44 Massachusetts artists were selected to receive fellowships and 31 more were chosen as finalists in the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Artist Grants Program, a highly competitive program designed to recognize exceptional artists in the state and to support their creative talent.

Artist Grants recipients receive \$7,500 awards. Finalists receive \$1,000.

"This grant could not be more timely," said Judith Larzelere, a Crafts grant finalist, whose studio was destroyed in an April fire at the Kendall Center for the Arts in Belmont. "I am slowly replacing my lost materials and equipment. I have purchased hand-dyed fabrics to resume my artistic work. This grant will encourage my spirit to keep on."

Artist Grants were given for fiscal year 1999 in crafts, music composition, photography, playwriting/new theater works and sculpture. The 75 artists receiving funding were selected from a pool of 980 applicants. Earlier this year, the MCC and Boston Film/Video Foundation named recipients and finalists in film and video.

"These artists represent the best Massachusetts has to offer in the visual arts, music composition and playwriting," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "These grants highlight our commitment to individual artists and their contributions to our thriving cultural community."

The Artist Grants Program has rotating funding categories on a biennial cycle. Fiscal year 2000 applications in the categories of choreography, fiction, poetry, painting and work-on-paper are currently under review.

The 1999 Artist Grant recipients are:

Crafts

143 applicants

Recipients

Maureen Banner, & Michael Banner, Monterey; Henry S. Fox, Newburyport; Michael M. Glancy, Rehoboth; Christopher S. Gustin, S. Dartmouth; Nancy Clarke Hayes, New Bedford; Donna Rhae Marder, Winchester; Claire Sanford, Gloucester; Stephen Whittlesey, West Barnstable.

Finalists

Cynthia Consentino, Northampton; Sarah J. Gindel, Jamaica Plain; Judith Larzelere, Belmont; Michelle Samour, Acton; Roy Superior, Williamsburg.

Film/Video

89 applicants

Recipients

Lauren Chiong, Cambridge; Mary Kocol, Somerville; Robert Moss, Jamaica Plain; Walid Raad, Northampton.

Finalists

Julie Akeret, Leeds; Alexandra Anthony, Watertown; Marlene Booth, Cambridge; Michael Majoros, Cambridge; Signe Taylor, Cambridge; Paul Turano, Jamaica Plain.

Music Composition

137 applicants

Recipients

Martin D. Amlin, Boston; Laura Andel, Cambridge; Robert Ceely, Brookline; Ernesto Klar, Cambridge; John Fitz Rogers, Somerville; James Russell Smith, Jr., Swampscott

Finalists

Shih-Hui Chen, Malden; Edward Cohen, Belmont; John Duesenberry, Brookline; Donal Fox, Roxbury; Tison Street, Boston.

Photography

230 applicants

Recipients

Karl Baden, Cambridge; Deborah Bright, Cambridge; David Hilliard, Boston; Jane Marsching, South Boston; Mary Ann McQuillan, Somerville; Think Again, Jamaica Plain; Thomas S. Young, Shelburne Falls.

Finalists

Bremmer Benedict, Newton; Judith Black, Cambridge; Mary Exner, Jamaica Plain; Lisa Kessler, Boston; Daniel Ranalli, Cambridge; Sonia Targontsidis, Brockton.

Playwriting/New Theater Works

153 applicants

Recipients

Cynthia Freeman & Ellen Groves, Somerville; Stacy Klein, Ashfield; Roberta Kusiak, Boston; Peter Maeck, Lexington; Kara Morin. Holyoke; Julie Rold, Brookline; Wendy Woodson, Amherst.

Finalists

Bill Harley, Seekonk; Ellen Kaplan, Whately; Wilma Pruitt, Springfield; Victoria Merriman, Somerville; Kathleen Rogers, Hull; Joyce Walsh, Lakeville.

Sculpture

228 applicants

Recipients

Laura Baring-Gould, Somerville; Mark F. Cooper, Somerville; Taylor Davis, Dorchester; Ellen Driscoll, Cambridge; Janet Echelman, Cambridge; Barry Freeland, Medford; Gregory M. Gomez, Newtonville; Mike Newby, South Chatham; Steve Novick, Cambridge; Linda Ross, Hyde Park; Pat Shannon, Dorchester; Jill Slosberg-Ackerman, Cambridge

Finalists

Anita, Somerville; Ken Hruby, Gloucester; Janice Redman, Provincetown.

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Spring 2000
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GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
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MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Creative Economy Report Released, page 2

Survey Assesses Cultural Facilities' Needs
Results Support Proposed Legislation, page 3

CulturaLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Folk Arts Initiative Highlight

Basket Maker Upholds Family Tradition, page 8

Strategic Plan Maps MCC Focus for Next 5 Years

The Massachusetts Cultural Council will become an increasingly collaborative, productive and visible agency under a new five-year plan that focuses on public-private partnerships and the harnessing of new technology to improve efficiency and expand the reach of programs in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences.

The plan approved by the MCC board in March is a far-ranging document resulting from public forums, surveys, planning retreats, program evaluations, focus groups and individual conversations. In all, more than 2,000 constituents helped to shape the document which is available online at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/plan.html.

"We are deeply indebted to all of the individuals and organizations that helped us develop this document," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

Continued on P.3 *

Culture Spurs Economic Development

Culture is playing an increasingly greater role as communities across the Commonwealth work to revitalize themselves and build a better quality of life – and the Massachusetts Cultural Council is serving as a catalyst for that development.

From Provincetown to the Berkshires, municipal officials, business leaders and the cultural community are forming partnerships to revitalize downtowns and take year-round advantage of cultural resources. At the center of many of these projects is the MCC's Cultural Economic Development Program.

Launched in 1997, CED promotes economic revitalization of neighborhoods and communities, the development of business capabilities of artists and cultural enterprises, and the organization and development of new markets for Massachusetts culture.

"There is a growing awareness of the key role culture can play in an economy, both in terms of providing jobs and in improving a community's quality of life," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "The CED Program is working to help communities develop the tools they need to expand this important economic cluster."

The tools are as diverse as the state. In Boston, a community development corporation has drawn the support of the Museum of Fine Arts, Northeastern University and the Massachusetts College of Art to use culture as a cornerstone of an effort to revitalize the Dudley Square district. In New Bedford, community and cultural leaders have joined with the business community to use culture to bring foot traffic downtown at night. In Holyoke, the city's history and cultural traditions combine in a comprehensive canal revitalization plan.

In Boston, ACT Roxbury has joined forces with the National Center of Afro-American Artists, Roxbury Community College and Dudley Square Main Streets to showcase the multitude of arts and cultural talent in Lower Roxbury. The ultimate aim is to increase the economic self-sufficiency of Roxbury artists while helping to revitalize the Dudley Square district, which at one time was Boston's second largest retail area.

Among the tools favored by the Arts, Culture and Trade Consortium are urban-suburban art tours, a "Business of Culture" artist workshop series, a film festival, open studios and "Roxbury in Motion," a series that spotlights Roxbury playwrights.

"Roxbury is a community very rich in talent, but [often] that talent doesn't have a vehicle to use as a showcase," says ACT Roxbury Director Candelaria Silva, crediting CED with providing a base on which ACT's founders could build.

Continued on P.6 *

MCCLetter

Over the past two years, the MCC has been a partner in an on-going initiative, The Creative Economy. The New England Council, in collaboration with the New England Foundation for the Arts, took on this project in July 1998 and subsequently retained Mt. Auburn Associates to conduct the actual research.

Phase One of the Creative Economy was released May 15 at Fairmont Copley Plaza, at an event sponsored by the MCC. This report, which will be highlighted in the next edition of MCCConnections, is the first step in a process designed to promote new investments and develop new strategies to strengthen a sector that has a key role to play in the future competitiveness of New England's economy.

For the first time, we are looking at the creative sector in its economic entirety, not-for-profit and commercial enterprises and artists alike. This Creative Cluster supports more than 245,000 jobs, or 3.5 percent of New England's total job base – more than the region's software or medical technology industries. This is good news for us all.

The report also identifies the Creative Workforce, comprised of creative thinkers and doers who drive the success of leading industries, and looks at Creative Communities, geographic areas with a concentration of creative workers, creative businesses and cultural organizations.

A second report, which will outline specific case studies and recommend strategies for business, government and education to strengthen this important economic sector, will be released next year.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout: Dawn Heinen.



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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 2001 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: TBA 2001 Final: TBA 2001
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY01 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwriting/New Theater Works and Sculpture Dec. 22, 2000

Media Fellowships Nov. 3, 2000 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Oct. 13, 2000 Mar. 9, 2001

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: TBA
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
Mar. 15, 2001

Endowment Grant Program

Pre-Application: Feb. 20, 2001
Final: Mar. 23, 2001

Event & Residency Program

Nov. 1, 2000 TBA 2001

Event & Residency Roster Review

TBA

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct. 16, 2000

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: May 15, 2000 Full Proposal: July 14, 2000

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec. 15, 2000

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple deadlines

Massachusetts Touring Program

June 1, 2000 Sept. 1, 2000 Dec. 1, 2000
(617-951-0010)

Massachusetts Touring Roster Review

TBA

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan. 22, 2001 Final: Mar. 2, 2001

PASS Program

Oct. 16, 2000

PASS Roster Review

Nov. 9, 2000

Professional Development Program

15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

TBA

YouthReach Initiative

Feb. 2002

Spring 2000
Vol. 5, No. 2

MCCConnections

Inside

MCCLetter

Creative Economy Report Released, page 2

Survey Assesses Cultural Facilities' Needs
Results Support Proposed Legislation, page 3

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Folk Arts Initiative Highlight

Basket Maker Upholds Family Tradition, page 8

Strategic Plan Maps MCC Focus for Next 5 Years

The Massachusetts Cultural Council will become an increasingly collaborative, productive and visible agency under a new five-year plan that focuses on public-private partnerships and the harnessing of new technology to improve efficiency and expand the reach of programs in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences.

The plan approved by the MCC board in March is a far-ranging document resulting from public forums, surveys, planning retreats, program evaluations, focus groups and individual conversations. In all, more than 2,000 constituents helped to shape the document which is available online at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/plan.html.

"We are deeply indebted to all of the individuals and organizations that helped us develop this document," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

*Continued on P.3 **

Culture Spurs Economic Development

Culture is playing an increasingly greater role as communities across the Commonwealth work to revitalize themselves and build a better quality of life – and the Massachusetts Cultural Council is serving as a catalyst for that development.

From Provincetown to the Berkshires, municipal officials, business leaders and the cultural community are forming partnerships to revitalize downtowns and take year-round advantage of cultural resources. At the center of many of these projects is the MCC's Cultural Economic Development Program.

Launched in 1997, CED promotes economic revitalization of neighborhoods and communities, the development of business capabilities of artists and cultural enterprises, and the organization and development of new markets for Massachusetts culture.

"There is a growing awareness of the key role culture can play in an economy, both in terms of providing jobs and in improving a community's quality of life," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "The CED Program is working to help communities develop the tools they need to expand this important economic cluster."

The tools are as diverse as the state. In Boston, a community development corporation has drawn the support of the Museum of Fine Arts, Northeastern University and the Massachusetts College of Art to use culture as a cornerstone of an effort to revitalize the Dudley Square district. In New Bedford, community and cultural leaders have joined with the business community to use culture to bring foot traffic downtown at night. In Holyoke, the city's history and cultural traditions combine in a comprehensive canal revitalization plan.

In Boston, ACT Roxbury has joined forces with the National Center of Afro-American Artists, Roxbury Community College and Dudley Square Main Streets to showcase the multitude of arts and cultural talent in Lower Roxbury. The ultimate aim is to increase the economic self-sufficiency of Roxbury artists while helping to revitalize the Dudley Square district, which at one time was Boston's second largest retail area.

Among the tools favored by the Arts, Culture and Trade Consortium are urban-suburban art tours, a "Business of Culture" artist workshop series, a film festival, open studios and "Roxbury in Motion," a series that spotlights Roxbury playwrights.

"Roxbury is a community very rich in talent, but [often] that talent doesn't have a vehicle to use as a showcase," says ACT Roxbury Director Candelaria Silva, crediting CED with providing a base on which ACT's founders could build.

*Continued on P.6 **

Over the past two years, the MCC has been a partner in an on-going initiative, The Creative Economy. The New England Council, in collaboration with the New England Foundation for the Arts, took on this project in July 1998 and subsequently retained Mt. Auburn Associates to conduct the actual research.

Phase One of the Creative Economy was released May 15 at Fairmont Copley Plaza, at an event sponsored by the MCC. This report, which will be highlighted in the next edition of MCCConnections, is the first step in a process designed to promote new investments and develop new strategies to strengthen a sector that has a key role to play in the future competitiveness of New England's economy.

For the first time, we are looking at the creative sector in its economic entirety, not-for-profit and commercial enterprises and artists alike. This Creative Cluster supports more than 245,000 jobs, or 3.5 percent of New England's total job base – more than the region's software or medical technology industries. This is good news for us all.

The report also identifies the Creative Workforce, comprised of creative thinkers and doers who drive the success of leading industries, and looks at Creative Communities, geographic areas with a concentration of creative workers, creative businesses and cultural organizations.

A second report, which will outline specific case studies and recommend strategies for business, government and education to strengthen this important economic sector, will be released next year.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout: Dawn Heinen.



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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 2001 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: TBA 2001 Final: TBA 2001
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY01 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwrighting/New Theater Works and Sculpture Dec. 22, 2000

Media Fellowships Nov. 3, 2000 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Oct. 13, 2000 Mar. 9, 2001

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: TBA
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
Mar. 15, 2001

Endowment Grant Program

Pre-Application: Feb. 20, 2001
Final: Mar. 23, 2001

Event & Residency Program

Nov. 1, 2000 TBA 2001

Event & Residency Roster Review

TBA

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct. 16, 2000

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: May 15, 2000 Full Proposal: July 14, 2000

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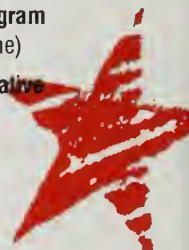
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"We're delighted with the Governor's recommendation," MCC Chairman Peter Nessen said of the proposal to raise MCC spending to \$19.5 million.

The House and Senate have each approved \$18.3 million cultural appropriations. A joint conference committee will then resolve the differences, with the goal of putting a fiscal 2001 budget in place by June 30.

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Massachusetts is one of only eight states in the nation with a personal income tax that does not provide such a deduction. The state also ranked last in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy's* "Generosity Index" that rated each

state's charitable giving in relation to income.

Sponsored by the Committee to Encourage Charitable Giving, the initiative referendum would also extend the deduction to all taxpayers, whether or not they itemize deductions. Economists have estimated a state deduction would generate an additional \$160 million in charitable contributions.

Continued from P.1 *

MCC 5-year Strategic Plan Unveiled

Over the next five years, the MCC will focus its financial and human resources on the development of new and nontraditional funding partners, through collaborations with other public agencies, foundations, corporations and individuals – while taking care not to compete with fundraising efforts by constituents.

The plan also calls for maximizing the impact of public dollars through an aggressive program of direct services for artists, cultural organizations, local cultural councils and

schools. The agency also plans to use technology to improve efficiency, expand our reach and increase our visibility.

"We will make a concerted effort to raise public awareness of the role that culture can play in building communities and improving the quality of our lives," Kelley added. "The Massachusetts Cultural Council is committed to building a central place for the arts, sciences and humanities in the everyday lives of communities across the Commonwealth." ■

Cultural Facility Needs Assessed

Not-for-profit cultural organizations in Massachusetts require more than \$500 million for maintenance and renovation to ensure their continued role as a focal point for community life, according to a new survey by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project.


The MCC/MCFP survey of more than 1,200 cultural organizations was conducted in January. The results, based on 201 responses, will be used in efforts to win passage of a \$35 million cultural facilities bill now in the Legislature.

The survey found that cultural organizations across the state were using facilities with an average age of 113 years. Of the respondents, 76 percent reported they planned facility maintenance projects within the next five years, while another 72 percent planned renovations, expansions or improvements.

The most common types of maintenance include heating and ventilation, roofs and painting, while Americans with Disability Act compliance and new gallery or studio space topped the renovation project list.

Pending legislation would create a \$35 million cultural facilities fund to begin meeting those needs. The grants and loans would enable cultural organizations to address needs that are often the most difficult private dollar to raise.

From the Berkshires to Provincetown, Massachusetts is home to an enormous number of renowned nonprofit cultural organizations. The not-for-profit cultural industry generates a \$2.56 billion economic impact each year for Massachusetts while employing more than 45,000 people and paying about \$17 million per year in state sales taxes.



Painting and Works on Paper Slides Showcased

The MCC's annual Visual Art Slide Showcase is June 17 at Harvard University's Sackler Museum. The Showcase presents the work of all Artist Grant Recipients, Finalists and applicants to the 2000 Artist Grants Program in the disciplines of painting and works on paper.

The work of nearly 600 artists will be projected, a total of more than 5,000 images. The Slide Showcase, which runs from 2-6 p.m., is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. Reservations are not required. The Sackler is located at 485 Broadway, near the Harvard T stop. For more information, contact Kelly Bennett at 800-232-0960 x349.

Folk Arts Resources Documented

The MCC Folk & Traditional Arts Program has begun assembling an archive of slides, negatives, audio recordings and notes documenting folk fieldwork being done around the state. A database of folk activity

has been set up to help local cultural councils, presenters and others find resources representing cultural traditions of excellence and authenticity. This work-in-progress will allow for searches to be done by traditional art form, artist or group name, ethnicity, town or county. For example, someone in the Pioneer Valley looking to program a Southeast Asian festival might contact the MCC to see if any known Cambodian musicians live in the area. To access information from the archives or the database, please contact State Folklorist Maggie Holtzberg at maggie.holtzberg@art.state.ma.us.

Also in the archive are copies of the Massachusetts fieldwork that was collected for the 1987 Smithsonian Folklife Festival. This collection of fieldnotes, photographic contact sheets, cassette recordings and relevant information about traditional artists and groups will be included in our growing database. As this knowledge base about communities, opportunities and resources increases, we will be examining how to best serve the state's folk arts constituents.

Elder Arts Initiative Artwork on Display at Museum of Science

Artwork created from a number of Elder Arts Initiative's Mentored Projects is on display in the resource room at Boston's Museum of Science exhibit, "The Secrets of Aging," which runs until Sept. 4.

On July 15, the Elder Arts Initiative will participate in the museum's Community Day, designed to emphasize certain aspects of the "Aging" exhibit. The event will feature performances by Massachusetts' artists throughout the day. For more information, visit their web site, www.mos.org.

Expanding beyond the Elder Arts Initiative's original training in creative process techniques, Mentored Projects offer opportunities for artists and service providers to create and implement long-range projects engaging the elderly in the arts. Eight Mentored Projects across the state over the last year involved writing, visual art, music and theater. For more information, contact Paula Rais at 800-232-0960 x401.

MAAE Arts Education Public Awareness Campaign Underway

"Strong Arts = Strong Schools" is the theme of a new public awareness campaign by the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education. The campaign was launched in March to coincide with the US Senate's designation of Arts Education Month. It will culminate in the June 8 Arts Education Day at the State House, co-sponsored by MAAE and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities.

Arts advocates will have the opportunity to visit with their legislators, from noon until the 2 p.m. start of the MAAE's annual Outstanding Arts Education Awards.

Among the awardees are: Sen. Susan Fargo (Legislative Leadership Award); Eric Oddleifson, founder of the Center for the Arts in the Basic Curriculum (Irene Buck Distinguished Service Award); and WBZ-TV entertainment reporter Joyce Kulhawik (Media Award). Awards will also be given for distin-

guished arts educators, collaborative arts program, community arts/cultural institution program and parent advocates. Finally, a school administrator and school committee will be honored for their commitment to high-quality arts education programs.

For more on the Strong Arts = Strong Schools campaign, Arts Education Day or to obtain an MAAE bumper sticker and information packet, check out their web site at www.massartsed.org.

Fiscal 2000 Final Reports Due

The fiscal year is coming to a close and final reports are due in the MCC office by Friday, July 28. Copies of these reports are available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/contracts.html, or by contacting Cyndy Gaviglio at 800-232-0960 x332.

Home Buyers Classes for Artists Slated for Fall

First-Time Home Buyers Classes for Artists are planned for the fall in Worcester, Springfield and Holyoke. Final dates have not been set.

Each five-week class will cover all aspects of purchasing a home, including budgeting, credit management, mortgage applications, home inspections, legal aspects of home ownership, multi-family ownership, homeowner's insurance and pre-qualification. Guest speakers address specific issues of concern to artists, such as zoning and safety concerns. Completion of the class can result in assistance with down payments and closing costs.

Similar classes have been offered in Boston and Lowell.

For more information, contact Michael Brady at 800-232-0960 x354.



Boston Chamber Backs the Arts

The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce has created a standing Arts Committee to build and strengthen the relationship between the business and cultural communities and to publicize the importance of the arts to greater Boston.

Chamber President Paul Guzzi, who initially announced the plan during the September

1999 Boston visit of National Endowment for the Arts Chairman William Ivey, envisions the committee as a tool to promote and support the arts as a way to enhance the quality of life in the region. The committee will be co-chaired by Mike Joyce, managing partner of Deloitte & Touche, and Mara Aspinall, president of Genzyme Pharmaceuticals.

Public Comment Sought on Arts Education Teacher Certification Standards



The Massachusetts Board of Education is gathering public comment on proposed revisions to the teacher certification regulations that would expand the expectations of what teachers should know in their certificate subject area, and establish alternative licensing routes for individuals interested in becoming teachers.

Education Commissioner David Driscoll said the ultimate goal is to develop regulations which "attract highly qualified people into teaching and school administration, through a variety of routes."

Draft regulations call for licenses in dance, music, speech, theater and visual arts.

Music certification may be further divided into vocal/general music and instrumental/general music, and visual arts split into licenses for grades Pre-K-8 and 5-12.

Next, the requirements for each discipline will be reviewed to ensure that prospective arts teachers have the knowledge and skills to provide high quality education.

The board is also seeking recommendations on what arts coursework should be included in preparation programs for early childhood and elementary educators.

The MBOE expects to take action on the final regulations in September. For a copy of the complete draft or to submit comments, visit www.doe.mass.edu.

LCC Members Learn from Peers at Regional Gatherings

A series of regional meetings were organized this spring by the MCC's Communities Department to provide opportunities for local cultural councils to move beyond the basic training sessions that are offered each year. These forums allowed LCC members to share stories, receive advice and meet peers.

Gatherings were held in Gardner and Sturbridge to discuss innovative local cultural council programs and to help members think about their own funding patterns. In all, 63 individuals representing 24 Worcester County LCCs attended these April forums. A panel including artist Rick Hamelin, Worcester LCC Chair Mary Ann Powers and ARTSWorcester Executive Director Ruth Penka shared experiences, insights and suggestions. Attendees talked about scheduling additional gatherings, perhaps with smaller groups around planning collaborative projects.

In the greater Boston area, a special training workshop for six urban councils took place in May. The workshop addressed the complexities larger councils face in managing regranting responsibilities.

A similar event, focusing on issues facing urban LCCs, will be hosted by Holyoke Cultural Council on June 15 at City Hall. This Urbans' Networking Forum is for urban and suburban councils managing between \$12,000-\$20,000. The evening's structure is open-ended, with possible topics including the development and implementation of concert series, scholarship programs, cultural festivals, public art projects or artist studio tours. Collaborative efforts will be emphasized.

Future gatherings are being planned and ideas from LCC members are welcome.

CED Plays Vital Role in Community Revitalization

In New Bedford, city leaders also embraced culture as a focal point in their plans to revitalize the downtown. Local officials in the one-time center of the nation's whaling industry have turned to their maritime heritage in the form of an expanding Whaling Museum and a new aquarium.

At the same time, a coalition of civic and cultural groups asked the MCC for help in their efforts to increase downtown foot traffic. The result was AHA! (Art, History and Architecture) and a plan for museums, shops and restaurants to coordinate evening hours one Thursday night a month.

Backed by a CED grant and technical assistance, AHA! Thursday Nights in the City have attracted growing attendance since their introduction last June. A recent study by the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth's Center for Policy Analysis found the project had a \$137,664 impact in just 10 months, generating \$9 for each grant dollar.

In Holyoke, volunteer workers are putting the finishing touches on the Centro Agricola, a community garden and restaurant complex developed by Neustras Raices, an urban gardening organization serving predominantly Hispanic South Holyoke.

The Holyoke Arts and Agriculture Project works in tandem with an MCC YouthReach project to build upon the art and gardening traditions in Puerto Rican culture. As envisioned by the project partners, including the Greater Holyoke Foundation, the Centro will be a gateway to an Arts Corridor along the canals, which in turn will be graced by art and exhibits reflecting the city's history of industry.

The CED strategy has also been applied statewide, where the first Boston Cyberarts Festival brought together two of the state's most important economic assets – the cultural and high technology communities – in exhibitions across eastern Massachusetts.

"Massachusetts has long recognized the importance of promoting a marriage between art and technology. For the Boston Cyberarts Festival, the Massachusetts Cultural Council not only provided the funds, but the encouragement, contacts, support and ideas to make this work," says George Fifield, Director of VisionSpace, the festival organizer.

Using MCC seed funding, Cyberarts organizers incorporated work by artists who use computer technology as an integral part of their work and successfully staged exhibitions and performances at dozens of venues across the Commonwealth last year.

The interplay between artists and technology can open new markets for companies to sell their products, with artists often finding new applications for existing technologies. Artists

become a new source of creative input into technology development.

Companies also benefit by the creation of an employee recruitment and retention tool while artists receive an opportunity to educate a broader audience about the cyberart form – while gaining another market for the display and sale of their work.

At its roots, CED is designed to break down barriers and build understanding about the importance of culture to our economy and our quality of life.

"Art draws people together, makes people comfortable and brings people in," says Silva. "We wanted to do something ... to draw people in."

For more information about CED, including a list of currently funded projects, visit www.massculturalcouncil.org/ced.html. ■

Meri Jenkins Named CED Manager

Meri Jenkins, an arts administrator with experience in program development and fiscal management in both the United States and the United Kingdom, has been named manager of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Cultural Economic Development Program.

Launched in 1997, CED promotes economic revitalization of neighborhoods and communities, the development of business capabilities of artists and cultural enterprises and the organization and development of new markets for Massachusetts culture.

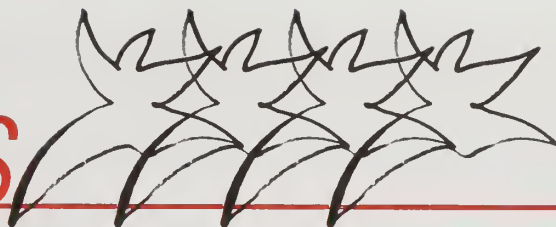
"We are delighted to welcome Meri," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "She has essential experience in brokering relationships between the commercial and cultural sectors."

As principal manager of Business in the Arts South in the United Kingdom, Jenkins worked strategically to identify areas of need and to broaden the dialogue among the participating organizations within a community. Prior to that position, she also served as executive director of Mudflat Studio in Boston.

Jenkins succeeds Beate Klein Becker, who served as Director of the CED Program since its inception four years ago and who will continue to consult on projects with the MCC.

"We are indebted to Beate for the effort she made in translating a concept into a successful program," said Kelley.

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

Connecting Art and Community, the 21st annual Summer Program in Arts/Nonprofit Management, provides a forum for community leaders, arts managers and community artists to enhance management skills, explore contemporary issues and develop professional networks. June 15-17 in Northampton. Contact: Arts Extension Service; 413-545-2360; www.umass.edu/aes

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival's School offers 12 dance artists the opportunity to seek deeper engagement between art and community through the Dance & Community Partnerships Program. Aug. 20-Sept. 2 in Becket. June 12 deadline. Contact: 413-637-1322; www.jacobspillow.org

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project conducts workshops to assist not-for-profit cultural organizations in planning successful facility projects. A schedule is available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/mcfp.html. Contact: Carol Harper; 617-727-8447.

Call for Entries

Brookline Arts Center's Crafts Showcase 2000 seeks crafts artists for Nov. 30-Dec. 17 show. June 30 deadline. Contact: Brookline Arts Center; 617-566-5715; BACntr@channel1.com

Northampton Film Festival 2000 showcases independent film and video from throughout the U.S. June 30 deadline. Contact: Northampton Film Associates; 413-586-3471; www.nohofilm.org

Maine Artists' Space seeks visual artists ages 19-35 for an exhibition at the Danforth Gallery in Portland, ME, and on the MAS web site this fall. Artists must live or work in the North Atlantic area. Aug. 1 deadline. Contact: MAS; www.maineartistspace.org

Short-Short Fiction Contest seeks original, unpublished work, 1,000 words or less – winner will be published in the Anthology of New England Writers 2001. June 15 deadline. Contact: Dr. Frank Anthony, New England Writers, Box 483, Windsor, VT 05089; 802-674-2315; newwtpoet@aol.com

Funding

Technology Opportunities Program, (formerly TIAP), will award \$12.5 million in grants by the Commerce Department this year as part of its effort to help close the "digital divide." TOP is a merit-based program that provides start-up funds for telecommunications and information technology projects operated by state, local and tribal governments, as well as nonprofit entities. Contact: 202-482-2048; www.ntia.doc.gov

Coleman Foundation makes one-time grants to not-for-profits and schools through its Entrepreneurship Awareness and Education Grant Program. Priority is given to practical programs that have community and/or institutional partners and can demonstrate financial and programmatic sustainability. Contact: Coleman Foundation; 312-902-7120; www.colemanfoundation.org

Gunk Foundation's Grants for Public Art Projects support work that extends beyond museum galleries or alternative spaces and into the spaces of daily life. In addition to open submissions, they seek site-specific works that engage the many facets of tourism (its production, consumption, byproducts, etc.) Oct. 30 and April 30 deadlines. Contact: Gunk Foundation; info@gunk.org; www.gunk.org

Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment makes grants (\$1,000-\$5,000) to U.S. artists who work outdoors and address environmental problems, issues and education. Send SASE: Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment, 5128 Manning Dr., Bethesda, MD 20814.

Residencies

Studio for Creative Inquiry offers one-year residencies to artists working on interdisciplinary and collaborative forms incorporating new technology. \$30,000 plus benefits. Contact: Studio, College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Mellon University; 412-268-3454.

Tremont Theatre, the International Society's (formerly Chinese Culture Institute) facility located in Boston's Theatre District, will present selected companies as part of its theatre residency program. Contact: Doris Chu; 617-542-4599; aoscci@aol.com

Resources

Millennium Arts Center, a national arts center, offers U.S. artists the opportunity to exhibit their work in the nation's capital through various projects. Contact: Millennium Arts Center; 202-479-2572.

Choosing a Consultant (www.planning.org/switchbd/pas443.htm), part of the American Planning Association's site, presents information and answers questions organizations may have when deciding to hire a consultant.

Cultural Funding: Federal Opportunities (www.arts.gov/federal.html), a feature of the NEA's web site, is designed to assist not-for-profit arts organizations in identifying potential sources of federal support.

www.helping.org connects not-for-profits and individuals with online resources, charitable giving opportunities, volunteer opportunities and information about efforts to help those without access to technology.

Harper Named MA Cultural Facilities Project Director

Carol Harper, a financial manager experienced in public investment and economic development, has been named program director of the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project.

The MCFP provides not-for-profit cultural institutions with workshops, planning grants and low-interest loans, for capital projects that advance their missions, foster their growth and strengthen their financial health. MCFP was launched in 1995 as a collaboration between the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Nonprofit Finance Fund and the New England Foundation for the Arts.

"We're very pleased to have Carol on board," said NFF President Clara Miller. "She brings a tremendous range of experience and knowledge of the public and private sectors."

Harper most recently managed the Commonwealth's Community Development Action Grant Program, a \$65 million program that acts as a catalyst for public investment in public/private economic development projects. She has spent the largest portion of her professional career as a corporate lender with BankBoston, working with multinational corporations, small businesses and real estate developers throughout the nation. She has a BA degree from Mount Holyoke College and an MBA from Boston College.

Harper succeeds John Bos, who will take on national duties for NFF.

Since its inception, the MCFP has awarded 66 planning grants totaling \$500,395. It has approved 16 loans, totaling \$3,773,250. Through workshops and individual consulta-

tions, MCFP has served more than 700 not-for-profit cultural organizations statewide.

Recent MCFP planning grants have included \$5,000 for the Provincetown Art Association and Museum toward an architectural and mechanical feasibility study of underground storage vault expansion and climate controls and \$8,750 to the Madison Park Development Corp. in Boston toward a feasibility study to determine if Hibernian Hall can support an arts-oriented economic develop-

ment program. The International Institute of Boston recent received a \$1 million capital campaign bridge loan to finance part of the cost of designing, creating and implementing the "Dreams of Freedom" multimedia exhibit anticipated to be part of the new museum.

Other MCFP grant and loan activity during the fiscal year involved organizations and facilities in Boston, Cambridge, Cohasset, Hadley, Lenox, Lowell, Newton, Pittsfield, Somerville and Worcester.



Jim Fossett

Chesterfield's Milt Lafond adjusts strips while weaving a pounded ash basket in his shop, the same shop founded in 1928 by his father-in-law, Ben Higgins, a renowned local basket maker. Lafond's work comes out of a utilitarian tradition where farmers and hilltown people used them to harvest, shop and store food items. One of few people in the region who works the entire process from cutting a tree through making the final basket, Lafond hopes that his youngest son will take up basket making.

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120 Boylston Street, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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Continued from P.1 *

MCC 5-year Strategic Plan Unveiled

Over the next five years, the MCC will focus its financial and human resources on the development of new and nontraditional funding partners, through collaborations with other public agencies, foundations, corporations and individuals – while taking care not to compete with fundraising efforts by constituents.

The plan also calls for maximizing the impact of public dollars through an aggressive program of direct services for artists, cultural organizations, local cultural councils and

schools. The agency also plans to use technology to improve efficiency, expand our reach and increase our visibility.

"We will make a concerted effort to raise public awareness of the role that culture can play in building communities and improving the quality of our lives," Kelley added. "The Massachusetts Cultural Council is committed to building a central place for the arts, sciences and humanities in the everyday lives of communities across the Commonwealth." ■

Cultural Facility Needs Assessed

Not-for-profit cultural organizations in Massachusetts require more than \$500 million for maintenance and renovation to ensure their continued role as a focal point for community life, according to a new survey by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project.


The MCC/MCFP survey of more than 1,200 cultural organizations was conducted in January. The results, based on 201 responses, will be used in efforts to win passage of a \$35 million cultural facilities bill now in the Legislature.

The survey found that cultural organizations across the state were using facilities with an average age of 113 years. Of the respondents, 76 percent reported they planned facility maintenance projects within the next five years, while another 72 percent planned renovations, expansions or improvements.

The most common types of maintenance include heating and ventilation, roofs and painting, while Americans with Disability Act compliance and new gallery or studio space topped the renovation project list.

Pending legislation would create a \$35 million cultural facilities fund to begin meeting those needs. The grants and loans would enable cultural organizations to address needs that are often the most difficult private dollar to raise.

From the Berkshires to Provincetown, Massachusetts is home to an enormous number of renowned nonprofit cultural organizations. The not-for-profit cultural industry generates a \$2.56 billion economic impact each year for Massachusetts while employing more than 45,000 people and paying about \$17 million per year in state sales taxes.



Painting and Works on Paper Slides Showcased

The MCC's annual Visual Art Slide Showcase is June 17 at Harvard University's Sackler Museum. The Showcase presents the work of all Artist Grant Recipients, Finalists and applicants to the 2000 Artist Grants Program in the disciplines of painting and works on paper.

The work of nearly 600 artists will be projected, a total of more than 5,000 images. The Slide Showcase, which runs from 2-6 p.m., is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. Reservations are not required. The Sackler is located at 485 Broadway, near the Harvard T stop. For more information, contact Kelly Bennett at 800-232-0960 x349.

Folk Arts Resources Documented

The MCC Folk & Traditional Arts Program has begun assembling an archive of slides, negatives, audio recordings and notes documenting folk fieldwork being done around the state. A database of folk activity

has been set up to help local cultural councils, presenters and others find resources representing cultural traditions of excellence and authenticity. This work-in-progress will allow for searches to be done by traditional art form, artist or group name, ethnicity, town or county. For example, someone in the Pioneer Valley looking to program a Southeast Asian festival might contact the MCC to see if any known Cambodian musicians live in the area. To access information from the archives or the database, please contact State Folklorist Maggie Holtzberg at maggie.holtzberg@art.state.ma.us.

Also in the archive are copies of the Massachusetts fieldwork that was collected for the 1987 Smithsonian Folklife Festival. This collection of fieldnotes, photographic contact sheets, cassette recordings and relevant information about traditional artists and groups will be included in our growing database. As this knowledge base about communities, opportunities and resources increases, we will be examining how to best serve the state's folk arts constituents.

Elder Arts Initiative Artwork on Display at Museum of Science

Artwork created from a number of Elder Arts Initiative's Mentored Projects is on display in the resource room at Boston's Museum of Science exhibit, "The Secrets of Aging," which runs until Sept. 4.

On July 15, the Elder Arts Initiative will participate in the museum's Community Day, designed to emphasize certain aspects of the "Aging" exhibit. The event will feature performances by Massachusetts' artists throughout the day. For more information, visit their web site, www.mos.org.

Expanding beyond the Elder Arts Initiative's original training in creative process techniques, Mentored Projects offer opportunities for artists and service providers to create and implement long-range projects engaging the elderly in the arts. Eight Mentored Projects across the state over the last year involved writing, visual art, music and theater. For more information, contact Paula Rais at 800-232-0960 x401.

MAAE Arts Education Public Awareness Campaign Underway

"Strong Arts = Strong Schools" is the theme of a new public awareness campaign by the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education. The campaign was launched in March to coincide with the US Senate's designation of Arts Education Month. It will culminate in the June 8 Arts Education Day at the State House, co-sponsored by MAAE and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities.

Arts advocates will have the opportunity to visit with their legislators, from noon until the 2 p.m. start of the MAAE's annual Outstanding Arts Education Awards.

Among the awardees are: Sen. Susan Fargo (Legislative Leadership Award); Eric Oddleifson, founder of the Center for the Arts in the Basic Curriculum (Irene Buck Distinguished Service Award); and WBZ-TV entertainment reporter Joyce Kulhawik (Media Award). Awards will also be given for distin-

guished arts educators, collaborative arts program, community arts/cultural institution program and parent advocates. Finally, a school administrator and school committee will be honored for their commitment to high-quality arts education programs.

For more on the Strong Arts = Strong Schools campaign, Arts Education Day or to obtain an MAAE bumper sticker and information packet, check out their web site at www.massartsed.org.

Fiscal 2000 Final Reports Due

The fiscal year is coming to a close and final reports are due in the MCC office by Friday, July 28. Copies of these reports are available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/contracts.html, or by contacting Cindy Gaviglio at 800-232-0960 x332.

Home Buyers Classes for Artists Slated for Fall

First-Time Home Buyers Classes for Artists are planned for the fall in Worcester, Springfield and Holyoke. Final dates have not been set.

Each five-week class will cover all aspects of purchasing a home, including budgeting, credit management, mortgage applications, home inspections, legal aspects of home ownership, multi-family ownership, homeowner's insurance and pre-qualification. Guest speakers address specific issues of concern to artists, such as zoning and safety concerns. Completion of the class can result in assistance with down payments and closing costs.

Similar classes have been offered in Boston and Lowell.

For more information, contact Michael Brady at 800-232-0960 x354.



Boston Chamber Backs the Arts

The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce has created a standing Arts Committee to build and strengthen the relationship between the business and cultural communities and to publicize the importance of the arts to greater Boston.

Chamber President Paul Guzzi, who initially announced the plan during the September

1999 Boston visit of National Endowment for the Arts Chairman William Ivey, envisions the committee as a tool to promote and support the arts as a way to enhance the quality of life in the region. The committee will be co-chaired by Mike Joyce, managing partner of Deloitte & Touche, and Mara Aspinall, president of Genzyme Pharmaceuticals.

Public Comment Sought on Arts Education Teacher Certification Standards



The Massachusetts Board of Education is gathering public comment on proposed revisions to the teacher certification regulations that would expand the expectations of what teachers should know in their certificate subject area, and establish alternative licensing routes for individuals interested in becoming teachers.

Education Commissioner David Driscoll said the ultimate goal is to develop regulations which "attract highly qualified people into teaching and school administration, through a variety of routes."

Draft regulations call for licenses in dance, music, speech, theater and visual arts. Music certification may be further divided into vocal/general music and instrumental/general music, and visual arts split into licenses for grades Pre-K-8 and 5-12.

Next, the requirements for each discipline will be reviewed to ensure that prospective arts teachers have the knowledge and skills to provide high quality education. The board is also seeking recommendations on what arts coursework should be included in preparation programs for early childhood and elementary educators.

The MBOE expects to take action on the final regulations in September. For a copy of the complete draft or to submit comments, visit www.doe.mass.edu.

LCC Members Learn from Peers at Regional Gatherings

A series of regional meetings were organized this spring by the MCC's Communities Department to provide opportunities for local cultural councils to move beyond the basic training sessions that are offered each year. These forums allowed LCC members to share stories, receive advice and meet peers.

Gatherings were held in Gardner and Sturbridge to discuss innovative local cultural council programs and to help members think about their own funding patterns. In all, 63 individuals representing 24 Worcester County LCCs attended these April forums. A panel including artist Rick Hamelin, Worcester LCC Chair Mary Ann Powers and ARTSWorcester Executive Director Ruth Penka shared experiences, insights and suggestions. Attendees talked about scheduling additional gatherings, perhaps with smaller groups around planning collaborative projects.

In the greater Boston area, a special training workshop for six urban councils took place in May. The workshop addressed the complexities larger councils face in managing reganting responsibilities.

A similar event, focusing on issues facing urban LCCs, will be hosted by Holyoke Cultural Council on June 15 at City Hall. This Urbans' Networking Forum is for urban and suburban councils managing between \$12,000-\$20,000. The evening's structure is open-ended, with possible topics including the development and implementation of concert series, scholarship programs, cultural festivals, public art projects or artist studio tours. Collaborative efforts will be emphasized.

Future gatherings are being planned and ideas from LCC members are welcome.

CED Plays Vital Role in Community Revitalization

In New Bedford, city leaders also embraced culture as a focal point in their plans to revitalize the downtown. Local officials in the one-time center of the nation's whaling industry have turned to their maritime heritage in the form of an expanding Whaling Museum and a new aquarium.

At the same time, a coalition of civic and cultural groups asked the MCC for help in their efforts to increase downtown foot traffic. The result was AHA! (Art, History and Architecture) and a plan for museums, shops and restaurants to coordinate evening hours one Thursday night a month.

Backed by a CED grant and technical assistance, AHA! Thursday Nights in the City have attracted growing attendance since their introduction last June. A recent study by the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth's Center for Policy Analysis found the project had a \$137,664 impact in just 10 months, generating \$9 for each grant dollar.

In Holyoke, volunteer workers are putting the finishing touches on the Centro Agricola, a community garden and restaurant complex developed by Neustras Raices, an urban gardening organization serving predominantly Hispanic South Holyoke.

The Holyoke Arts and Agriculture Project works in tandem with an MCC YouthReach project to build upon the art and gardening traditions in Puerto Rican culture. As envisioned by the project partners, including the Greater Holyoke Foundation, the Centro will be a gateway to an Arts Corridor along the canals, which in turn will be graced by art and exhibits reflecting the city's history of industry.

The CED strategy has also been applied statewide, where the first Boston Cyberarts Festival brought together two of the state's most important economic assets – the cultural and high technology communities – in exhibitions across eastern Massachusetts.

"Massachusetts has long recognized the importance of promoting a marriage between art and technology. For the Boston Cyberarts Festival, the Massachusetts Cultural Council not only provided the funds, but the encouragement, contacts, support and ideas to make this work," says George Fifield, Director of VisionSpace, the festival organizer.

Using MCC seed funding, Cyberarts organizers incorporated work by artists who use computer technology as an integral part of their work and successfully staged exhibitions and performances at dozens of venues across the Commonwealth last year.

The interplay between artists and technology can open new markets for companies to sell their products, with artists often finding new applications for existing technologies. Artists

become a new source of creative input into technology development.

Companies also benefit by the creation of an employee recruitment and retention tool while artists receive an opportunity to educate a broader audience about the cyberart form – while gaining another market for the display and sale of their work.

At its roots, CED is designed to break down barriers and build understanding about the importance of culture to our economy and our quality of life.

"Art draws people together, makes people comfortable and brings people in," says Silva. "We wanted to do something ... to draw people in."

For more information about CED, including a list of currently funded projects, visit www.massculturalcouncil.org/ced.html. ■

Meri Jenkins Named CED Manager

Meri Jenkins, an arts administrator with experience in program development and fiscal management in both the United States and the United Kingdom, has been named manager of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Cultural Economic Development Program.

Launched in 1997, CED promotes economic revitalization of neighborhoods and communities, the development of business capabilities of artists and cultural enterprises and the organization and development of new markets for Massachusetts culture.

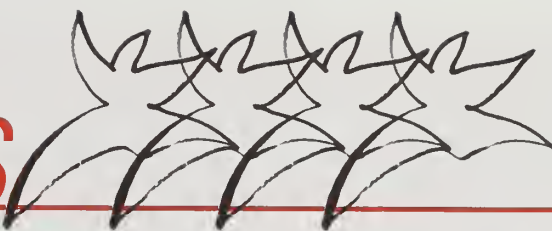
"We are delighted to welcome Meri," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "She has essential experience in brokering relationships between the commercial and cultural sectors."

As principal manager of Business in the Arts South in the United Kingdom, Jenkins worked strategically to identify areas of need and to broaden the dialogue among the participating organizations within a community. Prior to that position, she also served as executive director of Mudflat Studio in Boston.

Jenkins succeeds Beate Klein Becker, who served as Director of the CED Program since its inception four years ago and who will continue to consult on projects with the MCC.

"We are indebted to Beate for the effort she made in translating a concept into a successful program," said Kelley.

CulturalLinks



CulturaLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

Connecting Art and Community, the 21st annual Summer Program in Arts/Nonprofit Management, provides a forum for community leaders, arts managers and community artists to enhance management skills, explore contemporary issues and develop professional networks. June 15-17 in Northampton. Contact: Arts Extension Service; 413-545-2360; www.umass.edu/aes

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival's School offers 12 dance artists the opportunity to seek deeper engagement between art and community through the Dance & Community Partnerships Program. Aug. 20-Sept. 2 in Becket. June 12 deadline. Contact: 413-637-1322; www.jacobspillow.org

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project conducts workshops to assist not-for-profit cultural organizations in planning successful facility projects. A schedule is available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/mcfc.html. Contact: Carol Harper; 617-727-8447.

Call for Entries

Brookline Arts Center's Crafts Showcase 2000 seeks crafts artists for Nov. 30-Dec. 17 show. June 30 deadline. Contact: Brookline Arts Center; 617-566-5715; BACntr@channel1.com

Northampton Film Festival 2000 showcases independent film and video from throughout the U.S. June 30 deadline. Contact: Northampton Film Associates; 413-586-3471; www.nohofilm.org

Maine Artists' Space seeks visual artists ages 19-35 for an exhibition at the Danforth Gallery in Portland, ME, and on the MAS web site this fall. Artists must live or work in the North Atlantic area. Aug. 1 deadline. Contact: MAS; www.maineartistspace.org

Short-Short Fiction Contest seeks original, unpublished work, 1,000 words or less – winner will be published in the Anthology of New England Writers 2001. June 15 deadline. Contact: Dr. Frank Anthony, New England Writers, Box 483, Windsor, VT 05089; 802-674-2315; newvtpoet@aol.com

Funding

Technology Opportunities Program, (formerly TIAP), will award \$12.5 million in grants by the Commerce Department this year as part of its effort to help close the "digital divide." TOP is a merit-based program that provides start-up funds for telecommunications and information technology projects operated by state, local and tribal governments, as well as nonprofit entities. Contact: 202-482-2048; www.ntia.doc.gov

Coleman Foundation makes one-time grants to not-for-profits and schools through its Entrepreneurship Awareness and Education Grant Program. Priority is given to practical programs that have community and/or institutional partners and can demonstrate financial and programmatic sustainability. Contact: Coleman Foundation; 312-902-7120; www.colemanfoundation.org

Gunk Foundation's Grants for Public Art Projects support work that extends beyond museum galleries or alternative spaces and into the spaces of daily life. In addition to open submissions, they seek site-specific works that engage the many facets of tourism (its production, consumption, byproducts, etc.) Oct. 30 and April 30 deadlines. Contact: Gunk Foundation; info@gunk.org; www.gunk.org

Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment makes grants (\$1,000-\$5,000) to U.S. artists who work outdoors and address environmental problems, issues and education. Send SASE: Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment, 5128 Manning Dr., Bethesda, MD 20814.

Residencies

Studio for Creative Inquiry offers one-year residencies to artists working on interdisciplinary and collaborative forms incorporating new technology. \$30,000 plus benefits. Contact: Studio, College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Mellon University; 412-268-3454.

Tremont Theatre, the International Society's (formerly Chinese Culture Institute) facility located in Boston's Theatre District, will present selected companies as part of its theatre residency program. Contact: Doris Chu; 617-542-4599; aoscci@aol.com

Resources

Millennium Arts Center, a national arts center, offers U.S. artists the opportunity to exhibit their work in the nation's capital through various projects. Contact: Millennium Arts Center; 202-479-2572.

Choosing a Consultant (www.planning.org/switchbd/pas443.htm), part of the American Planning Association's site, presents information and answers questions organizations may have when deciding to hire a consultant.

Cultural Funding: Federal Opportunities (www.arts.gov/federal.html), a feature of the NEA's web site, is designed to assist not-for-profit arts organizations in identifying potential sources of federal support.

www.helping.org connects not-for-profits and individuals with online resources, charitable giving opportunities, volunteer opportunities and information about efforts to help those without access to technology.

Harper Named MA Cultural Facilities Project Director

Carol Harper, a financial manager experienced in public investment and economic development, has been named program director of the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project.

The MCFP provides not-for-profit cultural institutions with workshops, planning grants and low-interest loans, for capital projects that advance their missions, foster their growth and strengthen their financial health. MCFP was launched in 1995 as a collaboration between the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Nonprofit Finance Fund and the New England Foundation for the Arts.

"We're very pleased to have Carol on board," said NFF President Clara Miller. "She brings a tremendous range of experience and knowledge of the public and private sectors."

Harper most recently managed the Commonwealth's Community Development Action Grant Program, a \$65 million program that acts as a catalyst for public investment in public/private economic development projects. She has spent the largest portion of her professional career as a corporate lender with BankBoston, working with multinational corporations, small businesses and real estate developers throughout the nation. She has a BA degree from Mount Holyoke College and an MBA from Boston College.

Harper succeeds John Bos, who will take on national duties for NFF.

Since its inception, the MCFP has awarded 66 planning grants totaling \$500,395. It has approved 16 loans, totaling \$3,773,250. Through workshops and individual consulta-

tions, MCFP has served more than 700 not-for-profit cultural organizations statewide.

Recent MCFP planning grants have included \$5,000 for the Provincetown Art Association and Museum toward an architectural and mechanical feasibility study of underground storage vault expansion and climate controls and \$8,750 to the Madison Park Development Corp. in Boston toward a feasibility study to determine if Hibernian Hall can support an arts-oriented economic develop-

ment program. The International Institute of Boston recent received a \$1 million capital campaign bridge loan to finance part of the cost of designing, creating and implementing the "Dreams of Freedom" multimedia exhibit anticipated to be part of the new museum.

Other MCFP grant and loan activity during the fiscal year involved organizations and facilities in Boston, Cambridge, Cohasset, Hadley, Lenox, Lowell, Newton, Pittsfield, Somerville and Worcester.



Jim Fossatt

Chesterfield's Milt Lafond adjusts strips while weaving a pounded ash basket in his shop, the same shop founded in 1928 by his father-in-law, Ben Higgins, a renowned local basket maker. Lafond's work comes out of a utilitarian tradition where farmers and hilltown people used them to harvest, shop and store food items. One of few people in the region who works the entire process from cutting a tree through making the final basket, Lafond hopes that his youngest son will take up basket making.

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Fall 2000
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MCCConnections

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

JUN 19 2001

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Inside

MCCLetter

An Eventful Legislative Year, page 2

Commonwealth Award Nominations Sought

Honoring the Cultural Community's Finest, insert

CulturalLinks

Listing of Opportunities, page 7

Artist Grants Recipients Named

38 Artists Receive Fellowships, page 8

MCC Awards \$16.2 Million for FY01

Massachusetts artists, cultural organizations, schools and local cultural councils serving thousands of Bay State residents will share \$16.2 million in grants distributed for fiscal 2001 by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

The grants are part of an \$18.5 million appropriation approved by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Paul Cellucci in July.

The budget approval was part of a legislative session in which lawmakers also created a fund that could address the renovation and maintenance of cultural facilities – and enacted a state income tax deduction for charitable contributions.

New facilities legislation promises to address capital needs of the tourism and cultural facilities, beginning in fiscal 2002.

The legislation established a Regional Tourism Facilities Fund, which has the authority to make grants and loans of up to \$7 million to tourism-related facilities,

Continued on P.6 *

Mass. Vital to Region's Creative Industries

Massachusetts plays a pivotal role in New England's creative industries, a fast growing economic cluster consisting of commercial and not-for-profit ventures and the individual artists who comprise the heart of its workforce.

Creative industries – which include performing, visual and literary arts as well as media and heritage programs – employ 245,000 people in New England (3.5 percent of the region's workforce) and generate \$4.4 billion in payroll.

In Massachusetts, 116,299 people work in creative industries publishing software and poetry; designing billboards and fine art; composing jingles and sonatas. They teach our children and provide the cultural opportunities that contribute to the quality of life in the region.

These findings are part of the Creative Economy Initiative, unveiled at a luncheon earlier this year sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The full report can be found at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/necreport.html.

"Massachusetts has long believed that culture builds community," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "This initiative is designed to quantify that reality and create a blueprint of how to harness those creative resources for all of New England."

The study found that the creative cluster is larger than those for health technology and computer software – industries often seen as the region's driving force. It is about the same size as the computer hardware and communications cluster. The cluster is growing at a 14 percent rate, almost twice the 8 percent growth rate of the region overall.

Based on research conducted by Mt. Auburn Associates, the report is a collaborative effort among The New England Council, the New England Foundation for the Arts, the six New England state arts councils and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

"This report demonstrates that the arts are a significant and critical player in the New England economy – an economic engine in this knowledge-based economy that can no longer be ignored if the region is to remain competitive," said New England Council President and CEO James T. Brett.

Unlike previous economic impact studies, this report includes activity by the commercial and not-for-profit sectors as well as the contributions of individual artists. It examines strategic linkages between the sectors, such as spin-off commercial activity originating from the not-for-profit sector.

The report also recognizes the contributions of creative workers in defining economic competitiveness in the new knowledge-based economy, where the keys to job creation are innovative ideas and technology and where risk and constant changes are the rules.

Continued on P.6 *

MCCLetter

This has been a busy, eventful summer at the Council and there is much good news! Our budget emerged with no earmarks from the Legislature. The charitable deduction bill passed, allowing Massachusetts taxpayers to deduct contributions to not-for-profit organizations as they already do on their IRS filings.

Finally, a bill forming a Regional Tourism Facilities Fund was passed at the 11th hour of the legislative session. The bill could provide some much-needed help to cultural facilities for their capital needs beginning in FY02. We have Sen. Stan Rosenberg and Rep. Peter Larkin to thank for this victory. The Fund will be administered by the Mass Development Finance Agency. Details on the process and rules and regulations for the bill will be developed over the next several months and we will keep you informed.

Meanwhile, the MCC will be moving in December to new offices located at 10 St. James Ave. We will be posting this information with exact dates and our new mailing address on our web site and following up with a mailing when the information is complete. Our new digs are right off Arlington Street, very close to our present offices and convenient to all transportation.

As the fall begins, we are working on preparations for the 2001 Commonwealth Awards. Plans this year include a day of visits at the State House, culminating in a gala awards ceremony at the Emerson Majestic Theatre. Nomination forms for this year's winners are included in this newsletter and we hope you will send in your special nominees soon. So, save Tuesday, March 28! We look forward to seeing you there.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout: Dawn Heinen. Contributing Writer: Julia Galaburda.



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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 2001 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: TBA 2001 Final: TBA 2001
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY01 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwriting/New Theater Works Sculpture/Installation and Traditional Arts
Dec. 18, 2000

Media Fellowships Nov. 3, 2000 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Oct. 13, 2000 Apr. 13, 2001

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec. 1, 2000
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
Mar. 15, 2001

Endowment Grant Program

Pre-Application: Feb. 20, 2001
Final: Mar. 23, 2001

Event & Residency Program

Nov. 1, 2000

Event & Residency Roster Review

Feb. 12, 2001

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct. 16, 2000

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: May 15, 2000 Full Proposal: July 14, 2000

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec. 15, 2000

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-727-8447)

Massachusetts Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple deadlines

Massachusetts Touring Program

Sept. 1, 2000 Dec. 1, 2000 Mar. 1, 2000
(617-951-0010)

Massachusetts Touring Roster Review

Feb. 12, 2001

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan. 22, 2001 Final: Mar. 2, 2001

PASS Program

Oct. 16, 2000

PASS Roster Review

Nov. 9, 2000

Professional Development Program

15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

TBA

YouthReach Initiative

Feb. 2002



Elders, Teens Make Art – and a Difference

At first glance, elder residents of a Holyoke retirement community would not seem to have much in common with teenagers at a local Girls Inc. center. The Massachusetts Cultural Council's Elder Arts Initiative is proving they do – and they can learn a lot from each other.

The elders, teens and artists came together in May to present "Open Box: A Collection of Song, Stories and Dance" which explored similarities and differences across generational and racial lines, using art to unite them during times of transition in all their lives.

Dancer Dawn Lane, poet Gail Thomas and composer Teresa Whitaker joined Peter DiMuro, Associate Artistic Director with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in Washington, D.C. to work with the intergenerational cast as part of an Artists & Communities: America

Creates for the Millennium grant.

Launched in 1997, the Elder Initiative challenges the assumption that elders have lost the ability to use the arts as a link to valuable memories and improved physical and mental health. The program uses training seminars and special projects to bring together artists, service providers and elders.

"Elders are often underserved when it comes to access to the arts. This initiative provides creative ways for them to express themselves," says Elder Initiative Program Manager Paula Rais.

To date, more than 1,000 elders in more than 70 facilities across Massachusetts have been touched by the program. More than 180 artists and service providers have participated in training seminars, mentored programs and pilot projects designed to

encourage seniors to live fuller more meaningful lives by bringing the arts into their daily routines.

Among the results is "Life is What You Make Of It," a CD produced by Svjetlana Bukvic and Allison Gonzalez of Boston in collaboration with Aviva Schmuckler of the Elder Services Plan of Boston. They asked 14 residents of a Dorchester facility to use music and movement to stimulate memory and creativity – and use their bodies as instruments. The result was a full-length CD of songs and oral histories against a percussion backdrop created by elders.

"The Elder Arts Initiative is a wonderful program because it brings artists and service providers together to do intergenerational work," says Gonzalez.

For more on the Elder Arts Initiative schedule, visit www.massculturalcouncil.org/elderarts.

Governor Names 6 New MCC Board Members

Gov. Paul Cellucci and Lt. Gov. Jane Swift have named six new representatives to the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Cellucci re-appointed 13 other members, including Chairman Peter Nessen of Boston and Vice Chairman David Starr of Springfield. All members serve without compensation.

"I'm delighted such distinguished citizens are willing and able to provide their expertise and knowledge to the Massachusetts Cultural Council," Cellucci said. "Cultural activities are a crucial element of the state's economic vitality and one of the reasons the Commonwealth is a great place to live."

The new members are:

► Elizabeth B. (Lillie) Johnson of Boston, a trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts and the Boston Athenaeum. Johnson also has an interest in historic architecture, antique

American furniture and land conservation.

► Eve K. Nichols of Lexington, the Director of Institutional Advancement at the Whitehead Institute of Biomedical Research in Cambridge. An award-winning author of books on AIDS and human gene therapy, she is also a writer and editor.

► Dr. Ira S. Lapidus of Williamstown, a dentist and chairman of the board of the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Lapidus has also been active in local affairs, including election to four terms on the Mount Greylock School Committee.

► Dr. Frederick C. Tillis of Amherst, former Director of the University Fine Arts Center and Associate Chancellor for Equal Opportunity and Diversity at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. A musician, poet and author, Tillis received the 1997 Common-

wealth Award for Organizational Leadership.

► Rosamond B. Vaule of Brookline, an advisor to the Brookline Arts Center and a member of the 1999 Commonwealth Award planning committee. Vaule is currently researching and writing about early 20th Century American photography.

► Carmen D. (Dolly) Vazquez of Northboro, Program Director, Institute of Latino Arts & Culture at Centro Las Americas in Worcester. The coordinator of Centro's Latin American Festival, she also oversees all of the agency's cultural activities and collaborations.

"The MCC plays an important role as steward of the arts that greatly enrich the quality of life in Massachusetts," Swift said. "Gov. Cellucci and I thank our new appointees for bringing their devotion to the arts, sciences and humanities to public service."



Artist eGrants Go Live

The MCC has launched its first electronic grant application for the Artist Grants Program. This new eGrant system will allow applicants to navigate through application materials, and complete the necessary form online for the Dec. 18 deadline in crafts, music composition, photography, playwriting/new theater works, sculpture/installation and traditional arts. Apply online now by visiting www.massculturalcouncil.org/ag.html.

This eGrant was developed in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University's Center for Arts Management and Technology. eGrant applications for additional MCC programs are in the works.

Worcester Artists Forum

The MCC will sponsor an Artists Forum in Worcester on Nov. 8 in partnership with ArtsWorcester. The forum will focus on artist housing issues and will feature speakers from cities in New England and New York that have used culture and artist zoning to re-invigorate urban centers. As details become available they will be posted at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/events.

Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program Launched

Massachusetts shares a number of ethnic and occupational communities with the neighboring states of Connecticut and Rhode Island. A new folk and traditional arts apprenticeship program provides small grants to enable master artists to travel and teach apprentices across state lines.

Master artists may also apply to share their skills or repertoires with an equally accomplished master artist from the same tradition or ethnic community in another state.

This program is designed to foster the sharing of traditional folk arts skills

Public Comment Sought on Curriculum Frameworks

One of the best ways to ensure that cultural organizations and artists are viewed as important educational resources is for them to be actively involved in the development of these statewide learning standards. The MCC encourages constituents to be aware of several education reform processes.

Massachusetts Department of Education has released a revised version of the Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework with a deadline of Oct. 6 for public comment. The draft is available at www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/scitech00draft/toc.html.

A revised draft of the English Language Arts Framework (www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/ela00/toc.html) is also available, with feedback due Oct. 2. Of particular note are the new standards which address dramatic literature and two revised media standards.

through the apprenticeship model of learning – through regular, intensive, one-on-one teaching by a master artist to a student/apprentice. The program creates this opportunity specifically for individuals with a common heritage.

Eight master/apprentice pairs will be selected this year for funding at \$2,000 each.

Applications are available from Lynne Williamson, Director of the Connecticut Cultural Heritage Arts Program at 860-278-2044. For application assistance, contact the MCC's Maggie Holtzberg at x254 or maggie.holtzberg@art.state.ma.us.

InsideOut

NEW ROSTER REVIEW DEADLINE SET

The deadline for the all-discipline review to add performing artists to the Massachusetts Touring Roster and the Event & Residency Roster has been set for Feb. 12, 2001. The disciplines up for review include: Dance, Traditional Arts, Literature, Media, Music, Theater (including Mime and Storytelling) and Musical Theater, Visual Arts, and New Genres/Multidisciplinary.

Guidelines will be available in the winter. All Touring Roster artists and those Event & Residency artists up for recertification will need to renew their Roster status at this time.



Mariner Named Organizations Officer

Elaine Mariner has joined the Massachusetts Cultural Council staff as the Program Officer for Organizations. Mariner most recently served as the Deputy Director of the Colorado Council on the Arts, where she directed the agency's administration, communications, granting and finance operations. Prior to that, she co-founded and directed Arts Communications in Denver, a not-for-profit service organization with a mission to promote the arts and provide access to arts resources through web-based technology. She also has experience in the business world, working as a marketing representative for IBM for several years after receiving an MBA with a marketing emphasis from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

THE 2001 COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND INTERPRETIVE SCIENCES



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

OCTOBER 31, 2000 DEADLINE



Massachusetts
Foundation for the
Humanities
Bringing Ideas to Life

Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts,
Sciences and Humanities

MASH

REED & BARTON



Previous

COMMONWEALTH

AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Artist

Allan Rohan Crite 1993

Louis Krasner 1995

Yo-Yo Ma 1997

Semenya McCord 1997

Tina Packer 1999

Humanist

Henry Hampton 1993

Julian Crandall Hollick 1995

Joseph D. Thomas 1997

David McCullough 1999

Interpretive Scientist

Dr. Stephen Jay Gould 1993

Barbara Waters 1993

Bernard Zubrowski 1995

Charles E. Roth 1997

Bradford Washburn 1999

Organizational Leadership

DeWitt Henry, *Executive
Director, Ploughshares, Inc.*
1993

Zeren Earls, *President and
Artistic Director, First Night,
Inc.* 1993

Henry P. Becton, Jr., *President
and General Manager, WGBH*
1995

Edmund Barry Gaither,
*Director and Curator, National
Center of Afro-American Artists*
1997

Frederick C. Tillis, *Director,
Fine Arts Center-University of
Massachusetts at Amherst* 1997

Jeremy Alliger, *Founding
Director and Producer, Dance
Umbrella* 1999

AN

UNCOMMON WEALTH OF

CREATIVITY

COMMITMENT

COMMUNITY

PURPOSE

The Commonwealth Awards are the state's highest honor in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences. The Awards are given every two years to individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the cultural life of Massachusetts. The fifth biennial Commonwealth Awards will be presented at the Emerson Majestic Theatre on March 28, 2001.

CATEGORIES

One award will be given in each of the following nomination categories:

ARTIST

HUMANIST

INTERPRETIVE SCIENTIST

CULTURAL ORGANIZATION - For overall artistic/humanistic/scientific excellence and impact on public life.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP - For an individual who has made an outstanding contribution as a leader of a cultural organization.

EDUCATION - An individual, cultural organization or school that has developed a model education program in the arts, humanities or sciences.

COMMUNITY - A local cultural council, cultural organization or artist who has significantly integrated the arts, humanities or sciences into a community.

CATALYST - An individual, organization, corporation or foundation that has taken the lead in giving time, energy, expertise and/or funds to help build a central place for the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in Massachusetts.

CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Outstanding contributions in the advancement of excellence, access, education or diversity in the arts, humanities or interpretive sciences in Massachusetts.

Nominees must currently reside in Massachusetts. Previous Commonwealth Awards recipients are ineligible.





Previous

COMMONWEALTH

AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Cultural Organization

Art of Black Dance and Music
1995

Jacob's Pillow Dance
Festival 1995

The Center for Independent
Documentary 1997

Springfield Library & Museums
Association 1999

Education

Arts In Progress 1993

Rosebud C. Holland 1995

Elma Lewis 1995

Very Special Arts
Massachusetts 1997

Massachusetts College of Art
1999

Community

Somerville Arts Council 1993

Northampton Arts Council 1995

Hudson Area Arts Alliance 1997

Clara Wainwright 1999

Catalyst (formerly Patron)

John C. Sevey 1993

Jane P. Fitzpatrick 1993

Aerosmith 1995

Marge Champion 1997

LEF Foundation 1999

DEFINITIONS

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Anyone may submit one or more nominations. You may nominate your organization, but you may not nominate yourself.

To make a nomination, complete the form on the reverse side and return it along with the required support materials listed below. Please photocopy the Nomination Form to make additional nominations. Please print clearly or type in a font no smaller than 10 point (this is 10 point).

NOMINATION PACKAGE

Each nomination must include two (2) complete sets of the following:

1. Nomination Form
2. Statement of Support (see Nomination Form for instructions)
3. For individuals: a resume or biographical summary
4. Up to five (5) single-sided, 8.5" x 11" pages of descriptive support material (photocopies of articles, reviews, awards, letters of support, etc.). Please label all materials with the nominee's name.
5. All materials should be formatted with 1" margins on all sides to allow for copying and binding of panel books.

SUBMITTED MATERIALS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.

PROCESS

Nominations are due by Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2000. Notification will be made in January. Commonwealth Award recipients will be recognized at a public ceremony on Wednesday, March 28, 2001 at the Emerson Majestic Theatre in Boston.

Arts

The arts involve the creation, presentation and preservation of works in the following disciplines: crafts, design arts, folk arts, interdisciplinary arts, literary arts, media arts, performing arts and visual arts.

Humanities

The humanities are branches of learning that deal with self-awareness, language, reason, creativity, human values and aspirations, and the products of all of these. Examples of humanities disciplines include, but are not limited to: criticism, history, literature, philosophy and social studies.

Interpretive Sciences

The interpretive sciences are those activities that engage people of all ages in learning about nature, science and technology in ways that connect directly to their lives.



OCT. 31, 2000 DEADLINE!

NOMINATION FORM

THE COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY - ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED.
TO MAKE ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS FORM.

CATEGORY (check one):

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artist | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humanist | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Catalyst |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive Scientist | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | |

NOMINATEE INFORMATION:

Mr. — Ms. — _____
Name

Name of Organization (if applicable)

Name of Organization's Director (if different from above) Title

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone Home Telephone

Fax E-mail Address Web Address

NOMINATOR INFORMATION:

Mr. — Ms. — _____
Name

Title (if applicable)

Name of Organization (if applicable)

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone Home Telephone

Fax E-mail Address Web Address

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

On a separate sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper, describe in up to one (1) page why the nominee meets the criteria of this award. Please type in a font no smaller than 10 point (this is 10 point).

SUBMISSION:

Nominations must be postmarked or hand-delivered by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2000. No faxes accepted. Send nominations to:

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

ATTN: COMMONWEALTH AWARDS TEL: 617-727-3668

120 BOYLSTON ST. TOLL FREE: 800-232-0960

BOSTON, MA 02116-4600 TTY: 617-338-9153

Ed Partnerships Retreat to Plan, Network in Sept.

To assist partnerships in laying a foundation of understanding that will help sustain them over time, the MCC will again host a planning and networking retreat for its Education Partnership Initiative grant recipients in September. Planning grantees participate in two days of workshops on how to build and maintain strong partnerships. In addition, individual teams will engage in in-depth planning sessions to review their goals, assess their progress to date and make changes. On the second day, implementation teams will join the planning grantees, offering an opportunity for new and experienced partnerships to exchange ideas.

E&R Program Set for Redesign

The MCC will redesign the Event & Residency Program in an effort to reach the greatest number of schools and communities possible. Therefore, the Nov. 1 deadline will mark the final grant cycle under the program's current structure.

In an effort to extend the impact of the program and to increase the number of students and teachers who have the opportunity to work with professional artists, the MCC conducted an in-depth evaluation of the program. Included in the evaluation were an analysis of the program's current structure and usage trends, and interviews with principals, roster artists and other key players. Thanks to everyone who generously offered thoughts and feedback.

LCC Streamlining Update

Streamlining of local cultural councils, which enables local grant recipients to receive funding for their projects much earlier in the year, continues at an impressive pace, with 70 percent of the LCCs on target for the status by this fall. Key components of the new system are improved grant making and administrative operations at the local level, as well as smoother transitions between leadership changes.

Five advanced training sessions have been added to the fall schedule to further streamlining efforts. They include: "Working Together," a session on collaborative projects (Marlboro); "Financial Tracking and Record Keeping," for LCC members in leadership positions (Wakefield); "Public Art Forum," an exploration of the details involved in undertaking a public art project (Marshfield); "Networking Forum for Urban LCCs," an opportunity to discuss the challenges related to urban councils (Framingham); and "Raising Your LCC's Visibility" (Randolph). Formats for the sessions will vary, but all will include significant time for brainstorming with other volunteers. A complete workshop schedule is available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/news/lccfalltrain.html.

Local Roots Revamped

Local Roots, the MCC's newsletter serving the state's local cultural council members has been redesigned and reconceived.

It features some of the most exciting and innovative work from local councils. September's issue is on public art projects. Our inaugural issue last April explored the folk and traditional arts.

Information from councils on successful collaborative programming is needed for the winter edition, along with calendar listings of local council funded projects. Contact Penny Myles at x267 or penny.myles@art.state.ma.us.

MCC Launches Free LCC E-mail Accounts

Beginning in September, the MCC will provide local cultural councils with free web-based e-mail accounts. To date, over 80 of the state's 335 councils have signed on for this service.

The new system will allow council members to check their e-mail from any computer that has Internet access and will allow applicants to contact councils directly to get more information about local guidelines, mailing information, etc. The LCC Contact List is online at www.massculturalcouncil.org/grants/for_lcc/contact.html.

LCCs interested in receiving an MCC e-mail address should contact Dawn Heinen at x350 or dawn.heinen@art.state.ma.us.

Sept. Contracts Mailings



Organizations and individuals receiving a grant in the following categories will be sent a contract in September: Organizational Support, Education Partnership Initiative, YouthReach Initiative, Science in the Community, summer Professional Development and fall Event & Residency. If you do not receive a contract by mid-October, contact Cyndy Gaviglio at x332 or cyndy.gaviglio@art.state.ma.us. Grant administration information is available at www.massculturalcouncil.org/contracts.

Online Artist Housing, Health Care Information

Resources on affordable housing alternatives and health care options are available on our web site (www.massculturalcouncil.org/grants/for_artists/resources.html), including information on first-time home buyers' classes, housing subsidies and legal advice, and listings of affordable health care providers.

Continued from P.1 *

MCC Awards \$16.2 Million for FY01

including museums, theaters and historical sites. At least 50 percent of all grants and loans must go to cultural facilities.

The Massachusetts Development Finance Authority will administer the fund, which will be supported through an as-yet undetermined amount of revenue to be generated through the annual increase in the state's tourism fund. That fund currently finances operations of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, regional tourism councils and the Massachusetts International Trade Council, which all supported the legislation. The funding is subject to legislative appropriation. A 15-member advisory board will review applications from theaters, galleries, zoos, aquariums, historical sites and other public tourist facilities.

More information on the fund will be available as MassDevelopment develops rules and regulations over the course of the next year. Meanwhile, the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project will continue its very successful program to provide grants, low-interest loans and technical assistance to cultural organizations.

Lawmakers also approved a charitable deduction on the state's income tax, a move that is expected to benefit not-for-profit organizations across the Commonwealth. Prior to passage of this legislation, Massachusetts was one of only eight states that did not provide a deduction for charitable giving. The new deduction is expected to increase charitable giving in the state by about \$220 million.

The FY01 MCC budget includes \$7.1 million for the Organizational Support program to support the work of nearly 500 not-for-profit cultural organizations across the state. An additional \$3.9 million will go to the 335 local cultural councils that serve every city and town in the Commonwealth. Supplementing

that will be \$193,480 for 48 communities under the LCC Matching Incentive Program.

The MCC renewed its support for the Artist Grant program with an allocation of just under \$500,000 that will enable continued recognition of excellence in 11 disciplines, including a new category for traditional art.

The MCC will also maintain its commitment to education – both inside the classroom and out-of-school. The budget continues the Event & Residency Program while the agency examines its education programs with an eye to challenging and supporting schools in their commitment to the Arts Curriculum Framework.

The budget also provides \$590,177 to fund 23 Education Partnership Initiative grants, including new projects in North Adams, Pittsfield, Greenfield and Holyoke.

The MCC also reaffirmed and extended commitments to signature after-school programs – Science in the Community and YouthReach.

The nationally acclaimed YouthReach program completed a new round of funding with \$802,750 to support 38 after-school programs that use the arts to reach at-risk youth in communities across the state.

Science in the Community will allocate \$358,366 to support 10 out-of-school programs that improve scientific literacy, excite interest in the sciences, promote critical thinking, encourage self-esteem and build career awareness in at-risk teens.

The Cultural Economic Development Program will use \$260,000 to continue successful projects in Provincetown, New Bedford, Boston, Holyoke and Great Barrington. Another round of grants will be awarded in January.

The budget contains another \$1 million for the third year of an Endowment Grant program to assist cultural organizations considering the creation or expansion of endowments. The program has awarded 32 grants in its first two years.

The MCC also extended its partnerships with the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, which brings humanities programs into communities; the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education, which promotes arts education throughout the Commonwealth; the New England Foundation for the Arts; and VSA arts of Massachusetts which administers the Americans with Disabilities Act Mini-Grants Program. ■

Continued from P.1 *

Creative Industries Report

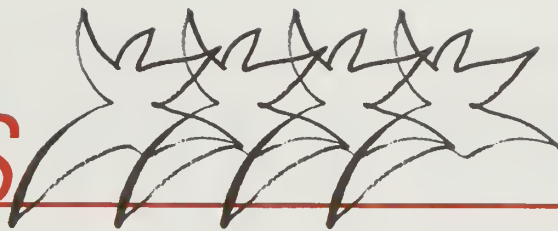
Brett said that the report will be useful to explore ways to grow this industry sector as well as help New England face one of its biggest challenges: the shortage of skilled labor.

"It is critical for the business community to understand the creative industry that underlies our economy in order to remain globally competitive. In order to succeed, business needs to stay ahead by learning to change quickly, adapting to innovation and finding new ways to reach customers," Brett said.

The report also cites studies that illustrate how arts education and training builds workforce skills that companies require in order to compete.

Phase II of the initiative is currently underway, in which each of the New England states will conduct case studies on specific aspects of the creative industries. In Massachusetts, the focus will be on the film and video industry, with a goal of developing policy recommendations for government, educators and business. ■

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

Intersection II is a festival that focuses on international, interdisciplinary and intercultural work in theater. Sept. 26 - 29 at UMass Amherst. Contact: New WORLD Theater; 413-545-1972; www.newworldtheater.org

Native Arts Network, the only national forum for cultural workers in the field of Native American arts brings together artists, scholars, curators, administrators and collectors to examine current trends in the field and to discuss collaborative strategies for the future. Oct. 11 - 14 in NYC. Contact: 602-277-3711; www.atlatl.org

Facility Project Planning helps organizations evaluate the full impact of facilities projects. Recommended for executive directors and board members. \$200/2 people. Oct. 12 registration deadline. Oct. 25 in Worcester. Contact: Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project; 617-727-8447; karen.gulbrandsen@art.state.ma.us

Call for Entries

Arizona Aqueous is open to U.S. residents 18 and over whose artwork focuses on innovative uses of water-based media on a paper product. Fee: \$15/slide. Nov. 2 deadline. Send SASE: AZAQ, Tubac Center of the Arts, PO Box 1911, Tubac, AZ 85646

LynnArts seeks visual artists over age 18 for upcoming juried shows. All entries must be submitted at LynnArts. Dec. 5 deadline for "Seeing is Believing: Religious Art." April 3 deadline for "Barely There: The Human Nude." Contact: Kacy Pierce; 781-598-5244

Holyoke Center seeks Cambridge-based artists for one-month exhibitions in their Harvard Square facility. Collaborative work with Cambridge/Boston area school groups encouraged. Shows run for one month. On-going deadline. Contact: Vanessa Trien; 617-495-5214; vanessatrien@mindspring.com

Funding

Creative Capital Foundation (www.creative-capital.org) provides grants to artists doing challenging, innovative work in the visual, performing and media arts. Creative Capital works closely with its funded artists to provide audience development, marketing and other forms of assistance tailored to individual projects. Oct. 31 deadline for visual arts and media.

Resource Development Handbook: Untapped Public Funding for the Arts describes over 40 funding mechanisms and programs used by communities of all sizes to diversify their base of support for the arts and use the arts as change-agents to address social, economic and educational issues. Available from Americans for the Arts at www.artsusa.org/publications/w99resdev.html

Residencies

Clowes Fund and Vermont Studio Center offer four Full Fellowship Residency Awards to painters and sculptors living in IA, MA, NH or WA. One-month residencies at Vermont Studio Center may be scheduled anytime between January and June 2001. Sept. 30 deadline. Contact: 802-635-2727; vscvt@pwshift.com; www.vermontstudiocenter.com

The Center for Book Arts' Sally R. Bishop Artist's Residency offers a book artist the opportunity to live and work in NYC for six weeks, beginning in May 2001. The recipient will create a limited edition book and will design and teach a class at the Center during

their stay. Oct. 1 deadline. Contact: www.centerforbookarts.org

C-Scape Dune Shack a primitive refuge for artists and the general public on Cape Cod National Seashore, offers 3-week summer residencies to visual artists (including one \$500 fellowship). Feb. 15 deadline. SASE to: C-Scape, Provincetown Community Compact, PO Box 819, Provincetown, MA 02657

Pouch Cove Foundation in Newfoundland provides 4-week residencies to artists. The residency includes exclusive use of one of the two 1,200 square foot furnished studio/residences overlooking the ocean. Contact: www.pouchcove.org

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts offers 3-month (average) residencies to U.S. and international visual artists. Facility is housed in two urban warehouses in Omaha, NE. Residencies include studio/living spaces, access to a full woodshop, video editing room, dark room, sculpture studio, installation galleries and technical support. Contact: www.bemiscenter.org/residency.html

Resources

Community Career Center offers free, national listings of jobs in the not-for-profit world. The site (www.nonprofitjobs.org) offers a search engine to look by region, job type, organization, salary range and more.

Arts Wire CURRENT (www.artswire.org/current.html) is an online weekly digest that features news updates on social, economic, philosophical and political issues affecting the arts and culture.

Strategic Planning Toolkit (www.nasaa-arts.org/new/nasaa/nasaanews/strategic.shtml) is a comprehensive, step-by-step guide that helps cultural organizations respond strategically to a rapidly changing environment, and builds the planning skills of cultural leaders. Available from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

Artist Grants Recipients and Finalist Named for 2000

Thirty-eight Massachusetts artists have been selected to receive fellowships and 39 more were chosen as finalists in the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Artist Grants Program, a highly competitive program designed to recognize exceptional artists in the state and to support their creative talent.

Artist Grants recipients receive \$12,500 awards. Finalists receive \$1,000 awards.

Artist Grants were given this year in choreography, fiction, painting, poetry and works on paper. The 77 artists receiving funding were selected from a pool of 1,446 applicants.

"These artists represent the best Massachusetts has to offer in the visual arts, dance and literature," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "These grants highlight our commitment to individual artists and their contributions to our thriving cultural community."

Next year's Artist Grants funding categories are: crafts, music composition, photography, playwriting/new theater works, sculpture/installation and traditional arts. The deadline is Dec. 18. Online applications are available at www.massculturalcouncil/ag.html.

Applications for Artist Grants in Film and Video are being accepted with a deadline of Nov. 3 by Boston Film/Video Foundation (617-536-1540). Visit www.bfvf.org for more information.

The 2000 Artist Grants recipients are:

Choreography

60 applicants

Recipients

Diane Arvanites-Noya & Tommy Neblett, Somerville; Christine Bennett, Somerville; Amy Spencer & Richard Colton, Concord.

Finalists

Paula Josa-Jones, Chilmark; Sun Ho Kim, Cambridge; Sara Sweet Rabadoux, Medford; Rebecca Rice, Acton; Marcus Schulkind, Boston.

Fiction

395 applicants

Recipients

Dean Albarelli, Provincetown; Craig Hickman, Roslindale; Loren King, Chelsea; Michael S. Kula, Boston; Joan Leegant, Newton; Michael F. Lowenthal, Jamaica Plain; Robert A. McKean, Newton; Maureen Murray, Wayland; Dori Ostermiller, Florence; Elizabeth Porto, Springfield; Julie Rold, Boston; Richard Symister, Mattapan; Jessica Treadway, Arlington.

Finalists

Christian A. Abouzeid, Somerville; Elizabeth Cox, Littleton; Philip Gambone, Boston; Lucy Honig, North Quincy; Karl Iagnemma, Cambridge; Jessica Brilliant Keener, Brookline; Joann Kobin, Northampton; Roland Merullo, Williamsburg; Patricia Powell, Cambridge; Hilary Sloat, Westhampton; Susan Wetherall, Cambridge.

Painting

387 applicants

Recipients

Nuno de Campos, Boston; Jorge Costa, Ludlow; Eugene Dorgan, Cambridge; Andrew Haines,

Jamaica Plain; Dale Kaplan, Sharon; D. Lehrer, Somerville; Katherine Schneider, Northampton; Jane E. Smaldone, Roslindale.

Finalists

Harry Bartnick, Beverly; Nathan Paul Boyer, Somerville; Michael David, Boston; Julie S. Graham, Brookline; William C. Harrington, Holliston; Suzanne Vincent, Salem.

Poetry

417 applicants

Recipients

Edward Barrett, Cambridge; Kevin Bowen, Dorchester; Marsha Smith Janson, Hamilton; Holly Iglesias, Shelburne Falls; Jennifer Martelli, Marblehead; David Montenegro, Boston; Peter Richards, Somerville; Dara Wier, Amherst.

Finalists

Cassandra Cleghorn, Williamstown; John Hodgen, Shrewsbury; Miriam O'Neal, Plymouth; Janet Longe Sadler, Sunderland.

Works on Paper

219 applicants

Recipients

Roberta Delaney, Sherborn; Vico Fabbris, Boston; Mark Holstein & Shane Murray, Boston; Dean Nimmer, Hyde Park; Ayae Takahashi, Somerville; Candace Walters, Mansfield.

Finalists

Joan Baldwin, Winchester; Genara Banzon, Cambridge; Gabrielle Barzaghi, Gloucester; Mark F. Cooper, Somerville; Laura Evans, Dorchester; Liz Folman, Brookline; Eileen Gillespie, Cambridge; Nancy Goodpastor, Easthampton; Elizabeth Michelman, Brookline; Mark Millstein, New Bedford; Lydia Nettle, Northampton; Jennifer Perry, Jamaica Plain; Michelle Samour, Acton.

Massachusetts Cultural Council
120 Boylston Street, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02116-4600

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March 2001

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Inside

MCCLetter

New offices for the new year, page 2

Meet the Commonwealth Award Recipients

Short bios on each honoree, page 6

CulturaLinks

Listing of opportunities, page 7

Culture Fest at the State House

Exhibits and performances on the Hill, page 8

MA Artists in the Spotlight

Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Grant Recipients will be in the spotlight in the coming year through two exhibitions highlighting their work in choreography and crafts.

"We're thrilled to be showcasing the works of these very talented Massachusetts artists," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "These events are part of the MCC's goal to raise the visibility of the arts and artists across the Commonwealth."

The works of three Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Grant Recipients in Choreography will premiere in March as part of the inaugural season of World Music's new CrashArts series.

Christine Bennett Dance, Spencer/Colton and Prometheus Dance will take to the stage of the Emerson Majestic Theatre on March 2-3.

Continued on P.3 *

2001 Commonwealth Awards Announced

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has named eight distinguished individuals and organizations as recipients of the 2001 Commonwealth Awards, the state's highest honors for contributions in the arts, humanities and sciences.

The recipients, who will be honored at a public ceremony at the Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston, on Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m., are:

- Artist – Richard Yarde of Amherst.
- Humanist – Doris Kearns Goodwin of Concord.
- Scientist – Professor Lynn Margulis of Amherst.
- Community – Community Music School of Springfield.
- Organizational Leadership – Robert Brustein, American Repertory Theatre, Cambridge.
- Cultural Organization – New Bedford Whaling Museum - Old Dartmouth Historical Society.
- Education – North Bennet Street School, Boston.
- Catalyst – Arts/Boston.

The Commonwealth Awards have been expanded this year with an afternoon Commonwealth Culture Fest at the Massachusetts State House, beginning at 12 noon and featuring exhibitions, performances and discussions designed to showcase the state's cultural riches. (See page 8).

The Awards were introduced in 1993 as a biennial event. They are sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities and the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities.

"Massachusetts is home to an impressive array of cultural resources worthy of honor," said Gov. Paul Cellucci, co-chairman of the Arts, Sciences and Humanities Legislative Leadership Committee. "These award recipients do the Commonwealth proud with their valuable contributions that enrich our quality of life."

"These awards recognize not only our stars but, equally important, the unsung heroes and heroines who make vital contributions by educating our children or enriching the lives of our communities," said Chad Gifford, President and Chief Operating Officer of Fleet, Presenting Sponsor for this year's Awards.

"Massachusetts is enriched by a prized resource of people with broad talent and a willingness to share their knowledge and skills with all our citizens," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley. "It's a pleasure to be able to salute them."

Continued on P.3 *

MCCLetter

The movers have come and gone – carting away the cartons of files from our old office space and reinstalling them at 10 St. James Avenue. They say that moving is right at the top of the stress charts with death and divorce – but of course that is supposed to apply to home moving, not office relocation! Even so, any move is full of planning, a few snafus, packing and schlepping – there is no way around it.

Moving is a time of change, of course, and all of us at the MCC welcome the opportunity to participate fully in new ways of doing our work. With our new five-year strategic plan in place, it will be exciting to be working in a new environment – one that we designed to a large degree by ourselves. It will take a while to get settled but the basics have been running smoothly since our move date, Jan. 16.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our new landlords, Millennium Partners. They are graciously giving us a below market rent so that our funds can be used for the purposes of grantmaking. We are very appreciative of their generosity and their helpfulness in making our move a seamless one. Particular kudos go to Kathy McNeill and Tony Pangaro.

We hope the New Year is a happy and healthy one for you and yours.


Executive Director

MCCConnections

The mission of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

The MCC gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the Commonwealth and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MCCConnections is produced three times per year. Letters and comments are welcome; please contact Jerry Berger. Editor/Writer: Jerry Berger. Layout: Dawn Heinen.



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MCCDeadlines

This is a list of fiscal year 2001 application deadlines. Some programs are administered by other organizations using MCC funds. Deadlines are subject to change.

ADA Mini-Grants Program

Intent: Jan. 19, 2001 Final: March 23, 2001
(617-350-7713 or TTY 617-482-4298)

Artist Grants Program

FY01 Disciplines: Crafts, Music Composition, Photography, Playwriting/New Theater Works Sculpture/Installation and Traditional Arts
Dec. 18, 2000

Media Fellowships Nov. 3, 2000 (617-536-1540)

Cultural Economic Development Program

Intent: March 2, 2001 Final: April 13, 2001

Education Partnership Initiative

Implementation Pre-Proposal: Dec. 1, 2000
Planning & Full Implementation Proposals:
March 15, 2001

Endowment Grant Program

Pre-Application: Feb. 20, 2001
Final: March 23, 2001

Event & Residency Program

Nov. 1, 2000

Local Cultural Council Grant Program

Oct. 16, 2000

LCC Matching Incentive Program

Intent: May 15, 2000 Full Proposal: July 14, 2000

LCCs Report Decisions to MCC

Dec. 15, 2000

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Project

Rolling (617-423-1892)

Massachusetts Elder Arts Initiative

Multiple deadlines

Massachusetts Touring Program

March 1, 2001, June 1, 2001
(617-951-0010)

MCC Roster Review

Feb. 12, 2001

Organizational Support Program

Intent: Jan. 22, 2001 Final: March 2, 2001

PASS Program

Oct. 16, 2000

PASS Roster Review

Nov. 9, 2000

Professional Development Program

15th of every month (except June)

Science in the Community Initiative

TBA

YouthReach Initiative

Feb. 2002



Continued from P.1 *

Commonwealth Awards Expanded

Glassmaker Josh Simpson of Shelburne Falls will create the 2001 Commonwealth Award art object. Simpson, who has staged exhibitions internationally, will create a series of glass Megaplanets tailored to each award recipient.

Award recipients will also receive a medal, designed by artist Deborah Bluestein and crafted by Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton, one of the state's oldest manufacturers. Bluestein is a graphic designer with more than 20 years of experience working with words and images.

The recipients were selected following a statewide process that began last summer with a call for nominations. A seven-member panel composed of individuals from the cultural community across the state selected the winners from 150 nominees.

The new Commonwealth Culture Fest will fill the State House hallways with music, art, exhibitions and performances highlighting the state's talents. Scheduled presenters will include Coro Allegro of Boston; Opera Aperta of Weston; Raw Art Works of Lynn; Angkor Dance Troupe of Lowell; several local cultural councils; and a 2001 Commonwealth Award

recipient, the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Presenting Sponsor for the 2001 Commonwealth Awards is Fleet. Other corporate sponsors include: Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton; The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Boston; Cosmic Blender; Blue River Films of Watertown; and WCVB-TV.

Honorary co-chairs of the 2001 Commonwealth Patrons Committee are David and Sandy Bakalar. Patrons for the event also include: Debbie and Bob First; Carol R. and Avram J. Goldberg, The Goldberg Family Foundation; Barbara W. and Steven Grossman; Chobee Hoy; Lola and Edwin Jaffe; Harvey Chet and Farla Krentzman; Annette and Michael Miller; and Rosamond and Sven Vaule.

State House events are free of charge while tickets to the ceremony and reception are \$15 per person. A supporter category with special benefits is also available for contributions of \$60 or more. All proceeds support the event. For information, call the MCC at 617-727-3668 /800-232-0960 /TTY 617-338-9153. Tickets can be charged by phone at 617-824-8000. ■

Continued from P.8 *

Simpson's Megaplanets Chosen

working in glass. In 1999, honorees received personalized sandblasted glass platters crafted by Peter Houk. Two years earlier, recipients were presented multimedia totems created and individualized by Deborah Putnoi; Laura Davidson created artist books in 1995 that contained one page illustrating why that person or organization was being honored. The inaugural 1993 ceremony presented coffee sets created by ceramic artist Gabrielle Schaffner with designs to reflect each recipient's work. ■

Continued from P.1 *

Mass. Artists Featured

Choreographers Christine Bennett, Richard Spencer, Amy Colton, Tommy Neblett and Diane Arvanites-Noya were recipients of the MCC's highly competitive grants in 2000.

The MCC is also collaborating with the Society of Arts and Crafts to present a statewide traveling exhibition featuring the works of the 1999 Artist Grant Recipients and Finalists in Crafts.

The exhibition will run through Feb. 25 at the Society of Arts and Crafts in Boston, before moving to Worcester Center for Crafts from March 3-31 and The Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield from June 1 to Sept. 2.

Craft Grant Recipients taking part in the exhibition are: Michael & Maureen Banner, metals, Monterey; Henry S. Fox, furniture, Newburyport; Michael M. Glaney, glass, Rehoboth; Chris Gustin, clay, South Dartmouth; Nancy Hayes, clay, New Bedford; Donna Rhae Marder, mixed media, Winchester; Claire Sanford, metal, Gloucester; Stephen Whittlesey, furniture, West Barnstable.

Participating Craft Grant Finalists are: Cynthia Consentino, clay, Northampton; Sarah J. Gindel, fiber, Jamaica Plain; Judith Larzelere, fiber, Belmont; Michelle Samour, fiber, Acton; Roy Superior, furniture, Williamsburg.

Meanwhile, the live/work needs of all Massachusetts artists were the focus of a November forum in Worcester that brought together experts from around New England to discuss what is taking place.

The forum brought together cultural and development leaders from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York to focus on the successful efforts in their communities to promote community wide economic revitalization. ■



OS Program Slated for Evaluation

From January - July 2001, consultants from the Conservation Company will be conducting an evaluation of the Organizational Support Program. Now in its sixth year, the goal of Organizational Support has been to provide continuity of funding to organizations with continuing track records of excellence. In FY2001, the program awarded a total of \$7.1 million in grants to 494 organizations. The MCC hopes to strengthen the program and build on the track record of success by analyzing the granting process from application through award. The Conservation Company will also seek information from the field. Any comments or suggestions on the program are welcome. A final report will be presented to the MCC board by August 2001. Findings will be incorporated into the program's FY2003 guidelines.

MCC's New Home

The MCC has a new home: 10 St. James Ave., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116-3803.

The move, which was completed on Jan. 16, provides the agency with more space and improved resources to serve our constituents.

The new space, which will continue to feature exhibitions by Massachusetts artists, is two blocks west of the old offices – and convenient to parking and the MBTA's Arlington Green Line station.

All other contact information remains unchanged.

ARTISTS CONGRESS TO EXPLORE DEFINITIONS OF ENVIRONMENT

The MCC is supporting the Sixth New England Artists Congress to be held May 3-6, 2001 in Woodstock, VT. At *Arts & Environment: Making the Green*, "environ-

ment" will take on broad definitions, including the natural, creative, built and working environments as experienced by artists. Congress planners are seeking proposals for workshops that relate to this theme. To propose a workshop, contact Michele Bailey at 802-828-3294 or mbailey@arts.vca.state.vt.us.

This year's Congress is a joint effort between New England Artist Trust, Pentangle Council on the Arts and the Vermont Arts Council.

Pothier Named A&F Director

Maura Pothier has joined the MCC as Director of Administration and Finance. A former fiscal policy supervisor in the state's Fiscal Affairs Division, Pothier holds a Masters in Public Administration from Suffolk University. Her duties in the state's budget bureau included the management of four analysts responsible for elder affairs, environmental affairs and health and human services, including Medicaid, mental health, mental retardation and public health. She has also worked at the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau and Commission on Mental Retardation.



Mass Folk Traditions Hit Public Airwaves

One Monday a month at noon, state folklorist Maggie Holtzberg talks about work from the field on WBUR's *Here & Now*.

Interviewed by host Robin Young, Holtzberg shares examples of the traditional arts and heritage the MCC is documenting throughout the state.

Five segments have aired to date, including sounds of Portuguese folk dancing in

InsideOut

Norwood, Madeiran *guitara* playing in New Bedford, Cape Breton fiddling in Watertown, Puerto Rican *cuatro*-making in Northampton, ship model making in Concord and Boston's North End, cranberry farming traditions in South Carver and change ringing, a 400-year old English tradition of bell ringing, which is alive and well in Boston's Old North Church and Church of the Advent.

WBUR also posts photographs from MCC folk fieldwork on their website (www.here-now.org) and provides links to each of the New England state folk art programs.

MAAE: NEW LEADERSHIP, NEW OFFICES

A membership organization dedicated to promoting high quality education in and through the arts, Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education has named Sally Handy as its new executive director. With more than 15 years experience as an educator and administrator, Handy has served as Director of Education at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education and was Education Director at the Flynn Theater for the Performing Arts in Burlington, VT.

MAAE opened its new offices on the campus of Lesley University in the Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences last fall. The new address is MAAE at Lesley University, 29 Everett St., Cambridge, MA 02138-2709; 617-349-8968; maae@massartsed.org.

eGRANT launched for Organizational Support

In a continuing effort to increase online services for grant applicants, the MCC launched an electronic application for the Organizational Support Program in De-

Expanded Info Sessions Include Peer Mentoring

The Organizations Department added a twist this year to information sessions held across the state in advance of the March 2 Organizational Support deadline – peer mentoring opportunities. To encourage sharing of best practices, OS grant recipients were invited to speak about areas of their work that their peer review panel found particularly effective. For example, in Pittsfield, Barbara Robertson, Williams College Museum of Art Education Director, talked about educational outreach programs and curriculum material development. In New Bedford, Joe Thomas of Spinner Publications addressed community involvement and support. This peer mentoring will be evaluated and offered again next cycle.



McGregor Named Artists Dept. Manager

Stella Aguirre McGregor, who for two years has been the MCC program coordinator in Organizational Support for presenting, media, folk and a variety of community-based organizations, has been appointed Artists Department Manager. Prior to her arrival at the MCC, McGregor was Arts Coordinator for the Central Artery Arts Program, where she worked closely with nationally recognized artists in the planning and implementation of large-scale public art projects. She also founded *the Space*, an alternative gallery in Boston serving artists of different disciplines, which she directed for over 10 years.

FORGING PARTNERSHIPS OUTSIDE THE BOX

MCC Presence at Municipal Conference Brings Culture to the Table

In January, the MCC participated in the 22nd Annual Meeting and Trade Show of the Massachusetts Municipal Association. MMA is a statewide organization serving municipalities. Forging stronger connections to the Commonwealth's municipal leaders is a key MCC strategy for expanding future support for local cultural councils and cultural economic development across the state.

Through a trade show booth the MCC staff spoke with conference participants about the LCC Matching Incentive and Cultural Economic Development programs.

In a keynote address to the Municipal City Councilor's Association, attorney Michael S. Greco spoke about the Creative Economy Initiative, a research project of the New England Council, the MCC and

other regional state arts agencies, which is redefining the cultural industry as a critical regional economic sector.

In partnership with the Municipal Councilor's Association, the MCC led a panel discussion on downtown economic revitalization featuring success stories from the CED Program.

"I had no idea about the impact of the state's cultural industry. I want to see what can happen in my community," said one audience member.

The MCC will continue fostering connections between municipal and cultural leaders to support community cultural development statewide.

MCC, Attorney General Host Conflict Resolution Training for Youth

In December, the MCC partnered with the Attorney General's Office to host a conflict

resolution training. The MCC was one of 10 sites selected nationally by the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, for this training.

Participants included both adults and young people from five projects of the YouthReach Program, a program which supports in-depth arts-based youth development.

The MCC and Attorney General's Office are now developing plans to offer similar training to other YouthReach projects, and other arts-based youth development programs. The Attorney General's Office will also be able to connect the trained sites with ongoing peer mediation teams in various communities. For more information on YouthReach, contact the MCC or www.massculturalcouncil.org/youthreach.html.



2001 Commonwealth Award Recipients

Artist

Stephen Long



RICHARD YARDE
A watercolorist whose work has appeared in galleries across the nation over the span of a 40-year career, Richard Yarde's work is drawn from his life, a near

death experience and his roots growing up in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. Currently a Professor of Art at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, a colleague has said, "Richard's life, like his art, is truly unusual, rich and terrifying, noble and defiant."

Humanist

Richard Goodwin



DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN
A nationally recognized historian and biographer, Doris Kearns Goodwin is a skilled and insightful writer with wide

public appeal. Recipient of a Pulitzer Prize in History for her biography of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, she has also written about Presidents Kennedy and Johnson – and growing up as a Brooklyn Dodgers fan!

Scientist

Paul Schmittacher



LYNN MARGULIS
A natural scientist with a passion to understand the development and structure of living things, Lynn Margulis is as much at home in the

classroom as the laboratory. A Distinguished University Professor in Geosciences at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, she shares her knowledge with students in class-

rooms and in museums such as the Worcester EcoTarium's long-running "What is Life" exhibit.

Community

Michael Zide



COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL OF SPRINGFIELD
From its roots as a small program for 90 students in 1983, the Community Music School of Springfield has grown into a center serving nearly 900 students a week in a historic downtown Springfield location. That success can be attributed to the vision and leadership of its founder and executive director, Eric Bachrach.

Organizational Leadership

Bill Miles



ROBERT BRUSTEIN
Author, playwright, critic and educator, Robert Brustein has inspired generations of theater artists to the highest standards of

excellence and achievement. Founder and Artistic Director of the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, Brustein has worked toward his dream that theater be "engaged, vital, central to our passions and thoughts."

Cultural Organization



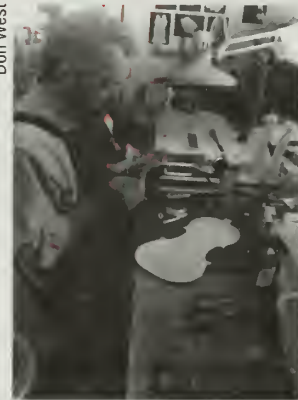
NEW BEDFORD WHALING MUSEUM

As a repository of the artifacts and lore of this city's storied past, the New Bedford

Whaling Museum has created and maintained a tradition of excellence since its founding in 1907. Today's museum reaches out to improve the lives of people who live, work or learn in the region through programs for teachers, school children and the area's large Portuguese community.

Education

Don West



NORTH BENNET STREET SCHOOL, BOSTON
Artistry and traditional craftsmanship are alive and well at Boston's North Bennet Street School. Since 1885, the school has

trained students for careers in trades that use traditional hand skills in concert with modern technology. The training received at the school contributes to the protection and preservation of New England's culture.

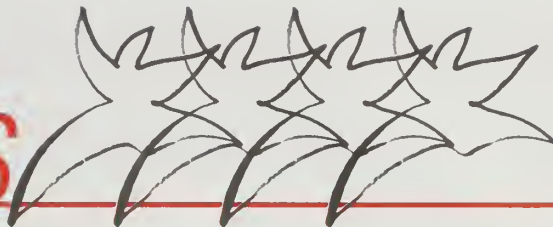
Catalyst



ARTS/BOSTON

Over the course of 25 years, Arts/Boston has grown from a discount ticket program to an organization taking the lead in building a central place for the arts in the community. Arts/Boston plays a pivotal role in providing the technical assistance to build organizational capacity – and audiences.

CulturalLinks



CulturalLinks listings can be submitted to the MCC c/o MCCConnections. An expanded list of opportunities is now available through our web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org/culturalinks.html. Due to space limitations, some listings may be edited or not included. Please direct submissions and inquiries to the addresses listed below.

Workshops

Arts & the Media Conference addresses topics such as effective press releases and web sites, alternative media, audience development, networking, grantwriting, board and organization development, creating and raising visibility for artists of color, and public relations strategies. March 24 at Cambridge Center for Adult Education. Contact: Diane Wortis; 617-547-6789; www.ccae.org

Massachusetts Department of Education's 2001-2002 Content Institute Program seeks proposals from providers for mathematics, science and technology/engineering institutes, mathematicians, scientists, engineers, teacher groups and professional organizations. Download the RFP at www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/cinstitute

Museum Institute for Teaching Science is offering professional development workshops in February and March for museum personnel and volunteers from science, art, history and other cultural institutions. Contact: MITS, 308 Congress St., Suite 5D, Boston, MA 02210-1027; 617-695-9771.

Tools for the 21st Century: Building the Arts is the Society for Arts in Healthcare's 2001 conference. Apr. 19 – 21 in Seattle, WA. Contact: 202-244-8088; www.societyartshealthcare.org

Pathways to Poetry, AMMI Collaborative's Spring 2001 workshop is for poets, new or experienced, who have a serious interest in craft. Faculty: Fred Marchant and Eva Bourke. March 23 – 25 in Sugar Hill, NH.

Feb. 16 application deadline. Contact: AMMI Collaborative, 262 Pond St., Hopkinton, MA 02130; 617-522-1868; ammi_collaborative@excite.com

Call for Entries

South Shore Art Center is accepting applications for its juried fine craft and fine art show at the 46th annual Festival on the Common, June 15 – 17 in Cohasset. March 1 deadline. Contact: 781-383-2787; www.ssac.org

Art of the Northeast USA Exhibition seeks painting, drawing, mixed media and sculpture artists residing in CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI. March 23 deadline. Send #10 SASE: AONE, Silvermine Guild Arts Center, 1037 Silvermine Rd., New Canaan, CT 06840. Or call 203-966-5617.

Boston African American Millennium Project is seeking visual artists of African descent to participate in a time capsule project. The time capsule will store slides, biographies of artists and other personal information on the artists. Contact: Jameel Parker; jameelparker@earthlink.net

Funding

NewEnglandFilm.com has links to several web sites that assist independent filmmakers seeking funds for their movies. See www.newenglandfilm.com/news/archives/00september/finance.htm

Visual Aid is an organization that encourages artists with life-threatening diseases to continue their creative work. Grants take the form of vouchers for art supplies. Other assistance is also available. Contact: Visual Aid, 785 Market St., Suite 720, San Francisco, CA 94103; visaid@dnai.com

Center for Alternative Media Arts and Culture offers grants to independent films in post-production dealing with economy, class, race, gender, labor, etc. Contact: CAMAC, PO Box 0832, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10101; tvnatfans@aol.com

Residencies

Djerassi Resident Artists Program invites artists in the disciplines of visual arts, music composition, choreography, literature and media arts/new genres to apply for 4-week residencies at the program's 580-acre retreat in the Santa Cruz Mountains 40 miles south of San Francisco. Established and emerging artists are encouraged to apply. Feb. 15 deadline. Guidelines and application are available online at www.djerassi.org. Or send SASE: Applications 2002, Djerassi Resident Artists Program, 2325 Bear Gulch Road, Woodside, CA 94062.

Resources

Artist's Resource Center at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, offers listings of jobs, grants, residencies, exhibition opportunities and public art projects. Available by subscription. Subscribing artists also receive individual career advising. For more information, visit www.smfa.edu

The Foundation Center has launched FC Stats (http://fdncenter.org/fc_stats), a new web site that provides free access to summary data on U.S. private and community foundations and their funding patterns. Users can research U.S. and international foundation giving, identify key funders and grant recipients in specific areas and find out about the largest foundation grants.

From NASCAR to Cirque Du Soleil: Lessons in Audience Development examines broad marketing trends and principles and their impact on not-for-profit presenters. These lessons help arts organizations as they struggle with changing demographics and with meshing their programs with the interests of younger and more diverse patrons and audiences. Researched and published by WESTAF, this report is available online at www.westaf.org/nascar.pdf

Culture Fest Expands Awards Day

The Commonwealth Awards have been expanded this year to include the Commonwealth Culture Fest at the Massachusetts State House, featuring exhibitions, performances and discussions showcasing the state's cultural riches.

The new Commonwealth Culture Fest will begin at 12 noon and fill State House hallways with music, art, exhibitions and performances. Scheduled presenters include Coro Allegro of Boston; Opera Aperta of Weston; Raw Art Works of Lynn; Angkor Dance Troupe of Lowell; several local cultural councils; and a 2001 Commonwealth Award recipient, the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

The afternoon's activities will conclude with a discussion of "Creative Power: The Role of Art and Culture in Developing the Massachusetts Economy." A panel of distinguished arts and business leaders will showcase examples of especially successful collaborations among cultural, business and community leaders and examine ways in which the creative industry enhances the state's economy and overall quality of life.

From the State House, activities will shift to the Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston, for a 5:30 p.m. public ceremony to honor the 2001 recipients. State House activities are free of charge.

Megaplanets Chosen as Award Object

Recipients of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's 2001 Commonwealth Award will be presented with a glass Megaplanet crafted by Shelburne Falls artist Josh Simpson.

Honorees will also receive a medal designed by artist Deborah Bluestein and crafted by Reed & Barton Silversmiths of Taunton.

"We're delighted to be able to honor the state's leading contributors to the arts, humanities and sciences while at the same time support Massachusetts artists," said MCC Executive Director Mary Kelley.

Simpson's design was selected from among 15 responses to a statewide call for propos-

als. The Megaplanet concept began in 1979 as a way to entertain a visiting class of eighth graders during a glassblowing demonstration – and has grown into internationally recognized works of art that combine art and science to depict the world and the universe around us.

Simpson, a Hamilton College graduate, has exhibited across the world, and at the Space Center Houston. His wife, Cady Coleman, is an astronaut who has twice flown Space Shuttle missions.

This is the second time the Commonwealth Award object has been made by an artist

*Continued on P.3 **



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